

Title: Curriculum Design: whose agenda?

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Abstract:

Session Learning Outcomes

By the end of this session, delegates will be able to:

- Discuss the differing perspectives of colleagues involved in the design and development of curricula;
- Identify the potential tensions, obstacles and opportunities that arise in the promotion of curriculum design;
- Debate the extent to which staff and educational developers are able to shape curriculum design to meet differing agenda.

Session Outline

Key issues to be addressed are:

The vision of the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) is, by 2017, to be recognised as a world-class modern university, competing successfully and sustainably in a regional, national and international market. Seven key components directly affect existing curricula:

equality of educational opportunity
achievement of excellence in all teaching and learning programmes
research informed delivery
graduate employability
outstanding student experience
international agenda
sustainability.

The workshop will discuss a range of methodologies (e.g. development days, validation and review, focus groups) used to promote curriculum design and development and to review existing curricula. Tensions and opportunities encountered in the development process will be explored and resistance and propellants for change highlighted. The role of internal and external quality assurance mechanisms, quality enhancement and development events will be debated and their contribution to fostering a shared UCLan vision considered.

Participants' views on a draft model for curriculum design will be solicited.

Session Activities and Approximate Timings

Presentation

Introduction and background to the changes to be implemented in the UCLan curriculum 10 min

Discussion

Curriculum requirements – Are there conflicting agendas? 10 min

Discussion

What are the conflicts / opportunities associated with the curriculum design process? 10 min

Presentation / Discussion

The proposed UCLan curriculum design model will be discussed of model and feedback from participants gathered 10 min

Conclusion

5 min

References

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