



Planning Underway for Employer-Led Apprenticeship Degree

Southampton Solent Business School has been invited to contribute to the development of a national Chartered Management Apprenticeship degree.

Professor Georgina Andrews, Director of the School, represented the University at a meeting chaired by Lord Young at 10 Downing Street to discuss the development of a national, employer-led degree apprenticeship with integrated Chartered Management Institute recognition.

The degree will provide students with an alternative route to graduation. Apprentices will earn as they learn and tuition fees will be jointly funded by the Government and employers.

SMEs will receive additional public funding to help develop management capability and boost innovation and growth. Employers will also benefit from National Insurance breaks.

The meeting, held on 18 February, was attended by ten UK Small Business Charter business schools, the Chartered Management Institute, Government policy advisors and major employers such as Serco, Balfour Beatty, the Civil Service and Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs).

Professor Georgina Andrews said: "This is a win, win scenario. Apprentices will obtain valuable, paid work experience and a debt free degree with chartered professional recognition. Employers will develop management capability, increase staff and secure government funding. This will all help to boost the economy and, at the same time, address skills shortages.

"We are proud to be involved with this exciting initiative which builds on our close links with industry, professional recognition and applied research."

Regional pilots for the national Chartered Management Apprenticeship degree commence in September 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE MEDIA OFFICE ON 023 8201 3048 or press.office@solent.ac.uk

About Southampton Solent University

Southampton Solent University offers more than 23,000 students over 200 qualifications ranging from HND to PhD, in subjects such as maritime education and training, fashion and design, media and television, music, health, sport and leisure, business, IT and technology. The University was awarded the 2013 Quality Assurance kitemark for quality and standards of teaching and learning. Solent was voted one of the most creative universities in the UK in a Which? University 2014 poll of students. Solent Business School has been awarded the Small Business Charter Award, which is supported by the Association of Business Schools and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and 'gold approval' by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA).