University of Hertfordshire January

Case Study: Working in Partnership with **Employers to Create Immersive Apprenticeship Programmes**

Dr Phil Mason Rob Dawson





Dr Phil Mason — Head of Strategic Management, Academic Manager for Business Apprenticeships, Hertfordshire Business School







Context

- CMDA mapped to 4 year 'BA Business and Management' programme
- Bespoke, closed delivery to cohorts of around 15 apprentices
- Delivered primarily 'on site' at TUI Head Offices
- Blend of learners experienced in post and new starters on 'rotation'
 - A legacy programme design

Opportunities for Partnership

Intent

- Internalized professional development programme an 'employer led programme'
- Contextualized, specialized and impact-oriented
- Opportunity to support access to HE quals and fast-tracked career

Implementation

- Dedicated faculty; alignment of content, assessment and learner support
- Professional/departmental leads embedded in modules
- Block delivery in 'fit' with business planning

Impact

- Direct relationship management academic team and professional teams
- Workforce planning skills and experience for success

Learner Feedback Word Cloud

```
development challenge
deadlines inspired
success intense challenging
emotional aspirations transformation
expanding stressful proud career
hard flexible
successful rewarding
```

From Obstacles to Innovation

- Achieving alignment business and academic cycles
 - → Delivery/assessment windows and Academic Quality
 - → Employer communication
- Adapting Curricula
 - → Building curricula differently
 - → The value of variety
- Communication and Relationships
 - → New resources and media
 - → Virtuous circles

Engagement – iteration and life cycle of the apprenticeship

Apprenticeship Promotion through Partnership

- Advocacy for Higher and Degree Apprenticeships
- Destigmatizing the word 'Apprenticeship'
- Commissioner, Line Manager/Mentor and Learner Facing Events
- Recruitment and Selection pro-apprenticeship culture
- Apprenticeships: Upskilling, Appraisal and Performance Management
- Apprenticeships: Career Pathways for School Leavers
- Hybrid Working and Apprenticeships

Key Messages

- Opportunities that come with review cycles continuous improvement
- Effective employer partnership starts with effective inter-departmental partnership
- Win-win-wins What's good for one is good for all

Thank you

