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| Vodcast Transcript 02/04/14 |
| Welcome on behalf of the Higher Education Academy  Jane Priestley, Academic Lead Health Care  Higher Education Academy (HEA) |
| Slide 1: Welcome  Hello, my name is Jane Priestley and I am Academic Lead for Health Care at the Academy within the Health and Social Care Cluster.  Slide 2: The Higher Education Academy  I want to set a little bit of context about some of the things we do and set this theme of employability, and some of the other things we look at, so that you can see how we are working to address and support some of these issues.  We are the United Kingdom body for learning and teaching in Higher Education. I am sure there are a lot of people in the room who are very familiar with our services because you are fellows of the HEA.  We are comprised of a team of subject specialists. A couple of the key words Lindsay has used this morning, e.g. Partnership are very important to us. We are working with universities, colleges, national bodies, professional bodies but all with the aim of enhancing learning and teaching. We can provide specialist support. This sort of event it is provided by the health and social care cluster.  We have a wide range of services which we strongly encourage people to engage with. We have a very strong tradition of engagement at Birmingham City University. You can speak to any of the team here and ask what benefits they have had from engagement as it has been a powerful partnership.  Slide 3: Thematic areas  The thematic areas do change over a period of time yet our current ones are listed on the slide. Again some of the things that you talked about in the event introduction are very key to this event and key to our work. We are committed to working with students as partners. It is essential to developing things and getting that impetus into design and delivery. Assessment and feedback, all of these issues are linked to employability that is a key theme. They are not discrete areas rather overlap between lots of these areas that we look at.  Flexible learning, when we first started talking about flexible learning it is something that we were very familiar with in the health and social care sector. We have had to be flexible; we have had to think about delivery in the workplace and for the workplace so again it is something that links to employability.  All of these things, e.g. sustainability, I think are very key to employability and actually promoting that employability is key to sustainability.  Slide 4: Employability  A major priority for all of us, for students on graduation but beyond that is their employability. They don’t just finish when they leave the door. We are still interested in that commitment to lifelong learning and employability throughout their careers.  A lot of the evidence indicates that this is place in which to address it. Get it embedded in the curriculum and it is something that will stay with them for the rest of their careers.  We are committed to engaging students to develop their skills and also to raise awareness of those skills. Sometimes students have skills that they are not aware of. Our role can be sometimes to facilitate that awareness. And also to encourage and enhance their ability to demonstrate those skills. Again some of the people that you know that have got those skills yet sometimes it is about confidence building so that they can actually demonstrate them.  Another key area for all of us is measuring success. How do we know that things are working? There are going to be some really exciting discussions today about how do we measure that impact? What sort of metrics are we using? What sort of experiences are we using to evidence that impact?  One of the things that Lindsay and I have discussed a lot about is that the focus today is about enhancing students’ employability but actually we are all enhancing our employability. We have media students here who are filming the event and who are enhancing their employability. We are here as either practice educators, practitioners, academics, careers advisors or students and actually being here today is helping our continuous professional development, informing it and enhancing our employability. So the way I look at it is that it is a win, win all round for us!  Slide 5: Health and Social Care  So how do we actually support the themes that we have? How do we enhance those themes when we are thinking about student learning?  A key one is events like this. I cannot stress enough the fantastic commitment and work that this team has put into this event, it has been tremendous. I think that you will have realized that from just looking at the information that has been available prior to the event. You have got the vodcast, the fantastic background information and it has been reflected by the fantastic turnout that we have got today. Thank you to BCU who have obviously supported this event in lots of different ways; loads of fantastic work.  We also have different events such as conferences and this is an opportunity for me to raise awareness of that. I know that the team here were at our conference last year and had a very active part in that. It is a one day conference that we run on an annual basis and this year (2014) the Health and Social Care conference will be in London in November. Please come along. Some of the feedback I got from people on a very informal basis was that it was a fantastic day and that it had really invigorated people’s enthusiasm for learning and teaching. One of the best bits of feedback I got was from a former colleague of mine who rang me up and said I went to that day and I came away and said I want some of that and she said I am actively looking for a new role to move my learning and teaching on; she is actually in that role now absolutely loving it. I think that events like that are where we get together and are buoyed up by each other’s enthusiasm are really great. So come along and submit to present when we send the abstract call out.  We also have awards. There are a lot of funding schemes that are available to enhance our themes. I can think of several in health that are around employability. The first call that we had out for teaching development grant, employability was a theme. We encouraged people to apply under that theme and there are projects that are taking place in universities, which isn’t appropriate to talk about now but over lunch people can ask me questions.  We also have doctoral scholarships and international scholarships. We can also organize visits to your institution. This is one of the things I am out and about doing at the moment. I am happy to come out and speak to people about learning and teaching issues. It’s not just a one way process. I am not just here to tell you about us. I am also here to pick information up. You tell me what are the key themes, what are the key issues that we need to be looking at and we can feed that back in?  We also have publications. Again there will be employability themes emerging through those so please access them. They are open access. If you go onto our website it is really easy to navigate into the journals. Read them, submit to them; let’s keep those publications going.  Within our cluster we have key themes, strategic projects and partnerships. So a lot of work with the Council of Deans at the moment around innovation, technology enhanced learning with Health Education England and something I am heavily involved in, patient and public involvement. So we have lots of key themes this is just a very brief snapshot of what we are doing.  Slide 6: Health and Social Care  So to sum up what our overall aims are: we want to enhance and add value to the education of healthcare professionals. Not just within the university setting but also within the practice setting. We all have a huge proportion of learning in our programmes that takes place in the practice setting. We are very committed to working with practice educators. We are currently hoping to look at some of the practice educator provision and to see how that actually aligns to our United Kingdom Professional Standards Framework (UKPSF). We are very aware of the demands of teaching people in the workplace and seeing what we can do to support that as well.  Supporting and inspiring a national network of learning and teaching practitioners. I got involved with the Higher Education Academy years ago when I worked at the University of Bradford. For me it was a defining moment in my career. I went on to be a learning and teaching fellow and I always felt I had the support of what was then the subject center. I would encourage you to engage. If you are a learning and teaching enthusiast keep involved with us. It will really keep your enthusiasm going.  Working in partnership. Nobody is successful on their own. We are made to work in teams aren’t we, particularly in health and social care. Let’s work together, let’s collaborate, and let’s address priorities. This is why I am really keen that people tell me what are the priorities. Let’s find out what the issues are and see what we can do.  Slide 7: The event today  So those are what we are aiming to do and this event today is a fantastic reflection of that. You are here to share practice to enhance and add value to the employability of students. And there are lots of people who have submitted posters and abstracts and there is going to be lots of discussions. So an absolute wealth of information. Wealth of sharing practice and building contacts.  We are going to support and inspire each other during the day. I have felt inspired by engaging with the team and learning more about what they are doing. I know that you are going to feel the same by what you are going to hear today. In turn we are enhancing our own employability.  The other thing is that they have worked in partnership. They have worked with students; they have huge links to practice educators, which is evidenced by a very nice diagram in the pack. But everyone is working together all to get this enhanced employability.  Working together to create resources. I know that there are resources on show today. You have got your toolkit for people. It says it is for staff new to teaching yet I think it’s for all of us in teaching. Whether you are new to it or if you have been in it twenty years. It is a fantastic resource in terms of employability so certainly make sure that you look at that. I know there are other resources on show but are not to take away today.  So really that is what I wanted to say in terms of welcome. I know that you are in for a really interesting and eventful day.  Slide 8: How to get involved  If you register with ‘My Academy’ on our website you can get our monthly bulletins. This is a really fantastic way to find out what events are on, what funding is available, not just from the HEA but nationally. It’s a really good quick snapshot that doesn’t take you hours plough through.  The other stuff on there about engaging with us. Communicate with us; join events, host events when there is a call out. Apply to host an event. Use our resources. Things need to be used. If they don’t get used then people will view it and say I wasn’t interested in that so please access these things. Build it into your continual professional development (CPD). I always recommend people become reviewers. It is a fantastic way to find out what is cutting edge in learning and teaching.  Slide 9: Contact  Anyway I am not going to overrun on time. There are a couple of things on there. You can contact me, people are welcome to have this presentation and get in touch with me. Enjoy your day! |