

Enticing students and employers

Gillian Fraser, g.a.fraser@rdg.ac.uk

Industrial Training

- Departments have offered placements for over 50 years
- CETL-AURS initiative to develop opportunity in School of Agriculture, Policy and Development
- 6 degree programmes ranging from science to business

Initial Success

- Started developing late 2005
- 2 students (approx 2%) interested
- 1 pulled out (family commitments)
- 1 unsuccessful at interview

- Decided had to target students early

Student Participation

- Developed a 3-pronged campaign,
 - prospective students
 - first year students
 - second year students

Prospective Students

- Information in Prospectus
- Details in degree programme handbooks
- Fliers available on Open Days
- Discussed in Open Day presentations
- Speak to students

First Years

- Discuss in Fresher's Week programme presentations
- Speak to each degree programme individually
- Personal tutors discuss and advise students to see me
- Module in Career Management Skills

Career Management Skills

- Compulsory 5 credit (120 credits per year) module
- June of 1st Year 3 ½ day sessions, concentrate on work experience
- Students visit a placement provider (Pepsico, Mars)
- Think about career interests
- Develop CVs and covering letters

Second Years

- Speak to each degree at start of term
- Give out fliers and invite them to come and see me
- Lunch time session with employers and students
- Career Management Skills Module

Success so far....

- 1 student currently out on placement
- 15 students interested/applying for next summer
- Lots of interest at open days

What works

- The earlier the better – prospectus, brochures, OD
- Discussing with personal tutors
- Speaking to students who have been on placements
- Staff participation

Enticing employers

- Not a huge issue
- Alumni phone
- Companies don't know who to contact - Pepsico