

Press release

E-Learning revolution at University of Sunderland

University of Sunderland selects Pearson as their Sunspace 2012 partner

The University of Sunderland and Pearson, the world's leading education company today announced a new partnership set to transform e-learning for Sunderland's 17,000 students and 1,500 academics and academic support staff, as part of Sunderland's Sunspace 2012 project.

Sunspace 2012 will create a new virtual learning environment that stimulates and energises staff to be creative with their use of technology and be innovative in their approaches to designing, delivering, assessing and supporting teaching, learning and research - whoever and wherever learners might be.

Sunderland's academic and support staff currently deliver approximately 1,600 courses supported by a virtual learning environment. By selecting Pearson's LearningStudio and EQUELLA, the university benefits from:

The ability to provide flexible learning opportunities that enhance the student experience, in relation to the time, place and pace of learning, by providing a consistent virtual learning environment

Easier sharing of learning material and content, whether created by students and faculty members, or drawn from Pearson's existing resources.

Sharing content through intelligent tagging and keyword searches across the university as a whole and across departments, allowing, for example, Maths students to access rich content including videos, audio, podcasts, pictures and animations from the Physics faculty.

The opportunity to offer a diverse and agile product portfolio that reaches new markets - domestic, corporate and international

A partner who is focused on enhancing the skills of students by using online technologies thus strengthening employability and developing life-long learning skills

A managed learning environment that enables enterprise systems integration to maximise administrative efficiencies.

Pearson's academic experience to support staff in transforming their use of technology to support student achievement.

The powerful combination of Pearson LearningStudio and EQUELLA, Pearson's successful partnership model and the University of Sunderland's clear vision for innovation in education, inspired by their talented staff make a perfect fit for realising true transformation in university education.

Kirsten Black, Sunderland's Director of Student & Learning Support said:

"It's been clear to me throughout this process that Pearson really understand that the University of Sunderland is actively seeking a company who, naturally, supplies brilliant technology but also a company whose actions and interactions brings with them a deep recognition and awareness of the benefits of working together as partners to develop a rounded world class learning environment for our students.

"I believe that the combination of Pearson LearningStudio and EQUELLA with the University of Sunderland will develop into a mutually beneficial, long term relationship in which we each grow and benefit from understanding the others strengths and development needs:

for me that is a partnership rather than just a supplier/customer relationship. It's an invigorating and highly exciting time for us at the University of Sunderland and I am thrilled that Pearson are with us as partners."

Rod Bristow, President of Pearson UK, said:

"Technology offers real opportunities to all parts of the education world. We are delighted to be working with University of Sunderland, one of the UK's most forward looking universities to enhance their students learning experience and support their staff through technological innovation."

Pearson LearningStudio is a comprehensive learning management system with assessment and analytics suites, and social learning tools that help to improve student achievement and retention. The technology offers a personalised learning environment built on advanced, scalable and dependable Software as a Service platform. For more information, visit www.pearsonlearningstudio.com.

EQUELLA is a digital repository that provides one system to house teaching and learning, research, media and library content. EQUELLA has been deployed for copyright resource collections, research materials, managing materials through web sites and portals, content authoring, workflow, institutional policy and document management. For more information, visit www.equella.com.

About Pearson

At Pearson, we take learning personally. Our courses and resources are available as books, online and via multi-lingual packages, helping people learn whatever, wherever and however they choose.

Pearson is the world's leading learning company. Our portfolio includes Penguin, Dorling Kindersley, the *Financial Times* and our educational business, Pearson International. Imprints including Longman and Prentice Hall combine 150 years of experience with online support for every learner. Learn more at: [HYPERLINK "http://www.pearson.com/uk"](http://www.pearson.com/uk)
<http://www.pearson.com/uk>.

About University of Sunderland

The University is an innovative, forward-thinking university with high standards of teaching, research and support that sits at the heart of one of the UK's most up and coming cities. The university has strong links with industry and business, and work closely with some of the world's leading companies. The University of Sunderland's two campuses - one in the city and one on the coast - are perfectly placed to ensure a life-changing student experience.