

Developing and supporting the curriculum

Enhancement of Marine Science Research and Teaching Linkages at Heriot-Watt Campuses: Edinburgh, Orkney, Dubai, Malaysia

1	Your higher education institution: Heriot-Watt University
2	Name author(s), and contact details: Professor James Mair, j.m.mair@hw.ac.uk
3	<u>Background</u> The aim of this project is to establish and enable a core team of HWU staff to develop a long-term strategy for maximising use of all the varied personnel and facilities at Heriot-Watt campuses in order to enhance the teaching of UGT/PGT/PGR programmes in the range of <u>marine science and technology</u> interests which are current and developing. 'Marine studies' are well established in different Schools/Institutes (SLS-CMBB; IPE-ICIT; EPS-OSL; www.cmbb.hw.ac.uk www.icit.hw.ac.uk http://osl.eps.hw.ac.uk) and with relevant expertise in others (SBE- Marine Spatial Planning/coastal flooding; MACS – mathematical modelling/computer simulations of physical/ecological parameters; SML – Maritime Logistics/Environmental Economics, etc.). There is, as yet, untapped potential for applied studies at Dubai Campus and significant to very large potential which could be established through the HWU-Malaysia campus. The HWU Enhancement Fund supplied funding to hold an initial focus meeting (29th March 2013) at the Orkney campus to plan out short-term/immediate actions which could be taken, and also set out a longer-term strategy for proposing to HWU Management (see Annex 1). There were several follow up meetings as and when the opportunity arose.
4	<u>The objective</u> of the focus meeting in March 2013 was to create an opportunity for a 'think-tank' away day for Core staff to discuss and develop ideas, such as to: • Re-establish linkages which historically existed in marine MSc teaching (titles: "<i>Marine Resource Development and Protection</i>" – Edinburgh; "<i>Marine Resource Management</i>" – Orkney) between Edinburgh and Orkney Campuses – but building on the wider ranges of MSc programmes now available at both campuses, including areas of Marine Renewable Energies, Climate Change, Marine Biodiversity and Biotechnology. • Make more of current research linkages happening between SLS and ICIT personnel and PhD students and MSc dissertation students (i.e. the regular field experiment visits made by Edinburgh-based students and supervisors to Orkney and Scapa Flow test sites). • Investigate potential for more use of field facilities and research at ICIT for UGT and other PGT training (in not only SLS, but for example also in SBE – applied field studies on marine spatial planning/surveying, etc). Discuss preferences with current students. • Consider additional HWU academic colleagues/Professional Services personnel (outside Core team) who should be brought in to discussions, once firmer ideas are proposed • Elaborate a plan for inclusion of Dubai and Malaysia campuses in these developments

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5	<u>Actions</u> at the focus meeting included: • Briefly overview and discuss agenda items • Identify staff to take each issue forward and produce short recommendations • Collate these recommendations into Workshop Report with actions
6	<u>Overall Summary</u> Numerous areas of current and potential useful future collaboration were identified as timely with current plans for Orkney Campus expansion.