

Interactive University accepts a Stirling offer

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Images Available

The University of Stirling has joined the ranks of Interactive University (IU), the company appointed to export the best of Scottish education to the global marketplace as an academic partner.

IU is broadening its offerings with the official sign-up, which will include Stirling's groundbreaking MBA in Entrepreneurship and Business Venturing. IU exports Scottish education programmes to 40 overseas institutions, known as local learning partners, in 23 different countries. IU has already signed up 80,000 students since its conception only two years ago.

Commenting for IU, Chief Operating Officer, David Farquhar said:

"The partnership with Stirling is an exciting milestone in IU's development. Our skills and expertise in e-learning and exporting education can work alongside Stirling's excellent and established reputation. IU's success has been incredible but much of this is dependent on our academic partners and their ability to create valuable qualifications. As interest from overseas institutions grows rapidly, we look forward to a broad and profitable relationship with Stirling, delivering their innovative programmes worldwide. We have already had enquiries from Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and Trinidad."

Frank Martin, Senior Teaching Fellow at the department of Business and Organization at The University of Stirling welcomed the IU partnership agreement:

"Our involvement with Interactive University has been positive from the outset and we fully support its vision to maximise the international distribution of Scottish Education. We are delighted to finally sign the deal and to be able to offer our MBA to a wide-ranging base of students across the globe."

IU already delivers more than 4.5 million hours of distributed learning each year, a figure which includes Heriot-Watt SCHOLAR, the world's largest e-learning programme. SCHOLAR is used by all schools in Scotland and is also being rolled out into schools in England, Northern Ireland, India and China.

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Interactive University

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Notes to editors:

About the Interactive University www.interactiveuniversity.net

Interactive University is a market-led organisation specialising in the development and delivery of accredited distributed learning programmes within the global post compulsory education sector. The university's primary objective is to become Scotland's centre of excellence in e-learning and the leading source of e-learning products, services and technology.

About The University of Stirling www.stirling.ac.uk

The campus-based University of Stirling was founded by Royal Charter in 1967 on the historic Airthrey Estate, close to Bridge of Allan and two miles from the centre of Stirling, which received city status in the Queen's Golden Jubilee year. Set in the shadow of the Ochil Hills, the campus is situated on a magnificent 310 acre state, centred around a large loch and the 18th century Airthrey Castle. The University undoubtedly has one of the most attractive campuses in Europe.

The University is organised academically into four Faculties: Arts, Human Sciences, Management, and Natural Sciences, and the Division of Academic Innovation and Continuing Education. Stirling has established itself as a major University with a fine reputation for teaching supported by an active research culture.

From its inception, Stirling has offered modular degree programmes allowing tremendous flexibility and choice. Innovative methods of teaching and learning have resulted in the introduction of part-time evening degrees and a credit-bearing Summer Academic Programme. Stirling was the first UK University to introduce a semester system and students have until mid-way through second year to decide what their final degree subject(s) will be.