



University of Chester

THE Awards 2019 – Outstanding Contribution to Leadership Development

Institution/Nominee	University of Chester
Title	Senior Leaders Master's Degree Apprenticeship
Key personnel	Lisa Rowe, Deputy Head, Centre for Work Related Studies, and Director of Business Engagement & Partnerships, University of Chester Business School
URL	https://www1.chester.ac.uk/degree-apprenticeships/our-courses/senior-leaders-masters-degree-apprenticeship
Submission	<p>In 2018, the Centre for Work Related Studies (CWRS) developed one of the UK's most innovative Senior Leaders Master's Degree Apprenticeship (SLMDA) programmes. This provides more effective staff progression routes, widens participation, and drives leadership development within and beyond the institution.</p> <p>Consulting with senior leaders both within and outside the university, CWRS created an open, fully work-based learning programme offering two pathways – MBA or MA/MSc. Its open cohort approach encourages cross-fertilization of ideas, enriching learning spanning multiple disciplines, industries and sectors.</p> <p>This creates unprecedented opportunities for staff to access academic lifelong learning routes, and combine theory with practice, through the design and management of innovative consultancy projects. These will enhance research and knowledge transfer opportunities, leadership skills development, and talent sourcing and retention.</p> <p>The university has promoted access to the Chester SLMDA within the institution, supporting critical workplace skills development in individuals, the organisation, and the wider local economy.</p>