

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

In considering entries for this award, the judges were on the lookout for new ways of working with employers backed by evidence of high-quality, flexible provision that meets employer and employee needs. Selecting the University of Edinburgh as the winner, the judges notes that its submission at once met these criteria while also being well received by the people it sought to benefit.

"Making the Most of Masters is an innovative taught postgraduate programme in which students can undertake work with an employer in lieu of traditional dissertation," said Sir Deian Hopkin, president of the National Library of Wales and one of the judges. The course – a collaboration between the University of Edinburgh and the Universities of Stirling and Aberdeen, coordinated by Edinburgh – "enables students to demonstrate their employability through undertaking a project proposed by the employer with the help of a specially designed toolkit".

The partnership forges new relationships between universities and employers while at the same time enabling universities and employers while at the same time enabling master's students to demonstrate and enhance their employability. Projects are proposed by employers and negotiated with relevant master's programmes. The MMM toolkit and guidance help students to engage with industry partners, while guidance help students to engage with industry partners, while dedicated members of staff help the master's courses and employers to work together in adapting resources to specific needs.

In 2011-12, MMM engaged with 281 employers and 67 master's programmes, and a total of 224 projects were agreed (110 taken by students). A further 335 projects have been added in 2012-13.