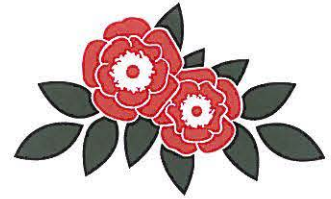


NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY
— OF CENTRAL —
LANCASHIRE



Breaking down barriers in the NHS

Each year over 2000 qualified doctors come to the UK to gain clinical experience and specialised training. New to the NHS, these doctors encounter problems relating to communication and management skills, the structure and systems of the Service and the general ethos of medical provision in the UK. This limits their ability to participate effectively in the NHS and restricts opportunities for promotion and career development.

A new programme is now being offered through the University of Central Lancashire, which will help doctors overcome those hurdles and enhance their clinical effectiveness. This part-time course can be taken alongside work commitments and will equip doctors with a greater understanding of the organisation and management of the NHS. It is expected that the further confidence this gives to overseas doctors will lead to an increase in the representation of minority ethnic clinicians within the health service and its leadership. Building on the skills already acquired by these doctors will ultimately improve patient care.

The University Advanced Certificate Health Service and Professional Practice Programme has been developed by the Lancashire Postgraduate School of Medicine and Health at the University, in partnership with the Overseas Doctors Association, the Mersey Deanery and the Department of Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education, at the University of Liverpool. The programme will be offered in the North West of England from March 2002, in London from summer 2002 and at other UK centres from 2003.

-ends-

28 January 2002

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