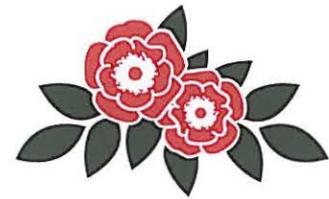


NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY
— OF CENTRAL —
LANCASHIRE



Youngsters get a taste of the caring professions

More than a hundred budding nurses, doctors, radiographers, physiotherapists and social care workers hope to find out what it's like to work in the NHS when they attend the annual NHS Under 16s Conference at the University of Central Lancashire on Tuesday 8 April 2003.

Hosted by the University's Faculty of Health, the Under 16s Conference is aimed at local schoolchildren who have already expressed an interest in careers in the NHS or social care work. It provides a glimpse into the NHS and the range of career opportunities available.

The young people will be treated to a day crammed with presentations by key speakers and hands-on workshops on areas like physiotherapy, resuscitation and trauma, prosthetics, radiotherapy and social care.

With its own clinical skills laboratories, set up as mock hospital wards with all the associated equipment, the Faculty of Health is the ideal venue for the conference. The event is being co-ordinated by the Workforce Development Confederation, local NHS Trusts, Social Services and UCLan.

Eileen Martin, Dean of the Faculty of Health, says: "We're delighted to be hosting this event. It's a great opportunity to increase students' awareness of the many rewarding careers available in the NHS and the social services.

"We embrace every opportunity to welcome schools into the Faculty of Health and we hope they enjoy seeing and experiencing the very impressive learning environment that we can offer."

Bill Sang, Chief Executive for Cumbria and Lancashire Workforce Development Confederation, said: "These types of events are something we are very keen to develop. They serve to showcase the vast array of NHS career opportunities available to young people, encourage them to join the local NHS workforce, and as such add to the improvement of future retention and recruitment."

-more follows-

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Pauline Oliver, Director of Social Services, has also expressed her pleasure at this joint venture with health colleagues and has said "Health and social care services are crucial to many aspects of daily life. There are many career options all of which can provide rewarding and satisfying work in local communities."

-ends-

1 April 2003

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Notes to editors:

The conference takes place on Tuesday 8 April 2003 from 9.15 am to 2.30 pm in the Harrington Building and the Greenbank Building of the University of Central Lancashire. Photo opportunity: Photographers are invited to attend resuscitation and trauma workshop in the clinical skills laboratory at 11.15 am. Please report to Harrington Reception.

Cumbria & Lancashire 
Workforce Development Confederation