



First MSc course in Pharmaceutical Licensing and Business Development Launched

19th September 2008, London. The UK's leading organisation for pharma executives working in Licensing and Business Development, the Pharmaceutical Licensing Group (PLG) today launches the first MSc Course in Pharmaceutical Licensing and Business Development.

Designed to promote best practice in this important area of pharmaceutical business development, the new MSc Course will appeal to recently appointed staff in the pharma and biotech industries who are keen to extend their knowledge in the same way as a MBA.

The MSc course consists of eight individual modules, each addressing a key field within the pharmaceutical and biotechnology business development environment. The course operates on a distance learning basis, offering an opportunity for students to gain University qualifications without a prolonged absence from the workplace. Teaching is undertaken by industry-based tutors and the course assignments are hands on projects, which relate directly to the students' daily business life. Trainees can undertake as many or as few of the modules as they need. The full MSc qualification requires the students to complete the eight modules with a project however some trainees may simply wish to take an individual module.

Sharon Finch, Non Executive Chairman of the PLG explains, "The PLG identified a clear need to formalise the training of graduates in the Business Development and Licensing areas. Our courses will not only provide an effective introduction to the pharmaceutical industry but will also provide in-depth knowledge of Business Development operations, including financial, legal and intellectual property aspects, alongside R&D and Production issues and importantly, negotiation and interpersonal skills.

Sharon continues, %We are extremely proud of the scope and expertise incorporated into the MSc modules and we have been delighted by our initial uptake of the modules, with more than 48 already assigned.+

This unique MSc course has been developed in partnership with the University of Manchester, which runs the course as part of their Pharmaceutical Industry Advanced Training [PIAT] courses. The PIAT courses are a series of post graduate level training programmes, which are specifically designed for scientist and managers working in the pharmaceutical industry. The programme is administered by the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, which obtained the highest ratings available in recent teaching and research assignments. <http://www.pharmacy.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/piat/>

About the Pharmaceutical Licensing Group

Operating out of the UK, the Pharmaceutical Licensing Group is the professional association for personnel who work in business development and licensing in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology and healthcare technology transfer industry. As the UK's premier networking group, the Pharmaceutical Licensing Group provides an extensive range of training courses designed to deliver personal and individual professional development.

The Pharmaceutical Licensing Group also has Affiliated Groups in other European countries as well as Associations in Canada and Japan.

The PLG is a not for profit organisation which worldwide reaches approximately 1,500 members. Additional information is available on the Internet at www.plg-uk.com.

About Manchester University

Additional information is available on the Internet at www.manchester.ac.uk.

For more information, an interview with Sharon Finch or a photo from the launch event please contact:

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