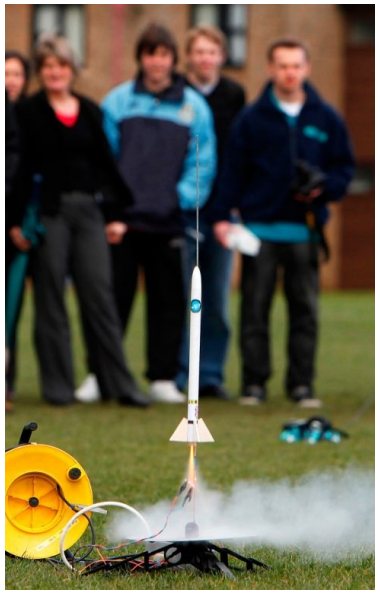

Universities engaging with Diplomas

Ian Douglas

UK Chair HELOA

University of Hertfordshire UH

HELOA

Myth to reality

14-19 curriculum changes

Historic perspective: why change ?

... A levels have changed

Diploma advert ruled "misleading“ BBC 28 Oct

Diplomas too difficult for pupils, says survey Guardian 27 Oct

Up to 1400 2nd yr Advanced Diploma students

What do we know ?

How do we find out ?

Get involved

- Find out what is happening in your local area:

  Schools, Colleges, LEAs
- http://www.diploma-support.org/
- http://www.ucas.ac.uk/diplomastatements/
- Prospectus content
- Admissions tutors awareness
- Offers – your admissions process
- Implications for 1st yr courses

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Real engagement

- Coordinated approach
- Understand local deliver mechanism
- Supporting Gateway bids
- Subject links to Lines of learning
- IAG link
- Hosting and supporting events
- Cost recovery

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University of Hertfordshire experience

- 7 local areas in county – UH representation
- University integral to Gateway Bids
- Involvement of UH lecturing staff
- Planned events
  - IAG & Careers events
  - Subject tasters
  - Induction events
  - Curriculum themed days

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IAG & Careers events

- Training for Connexions advisers with LEA
- Pupils and parent careers events hosted
- Yr 9 and yr 11 transition evenings
- Diploma student “getting into uni” talks
- Taster days
- Post 16 Network meetings
- Regional Diploma networks

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Subject and themed events

- Strength of materials
- Health simulations
- Animation and TV studio work
- Aerospace “Rockets”
- Hospitality and catering visits
- Extended project research sessions

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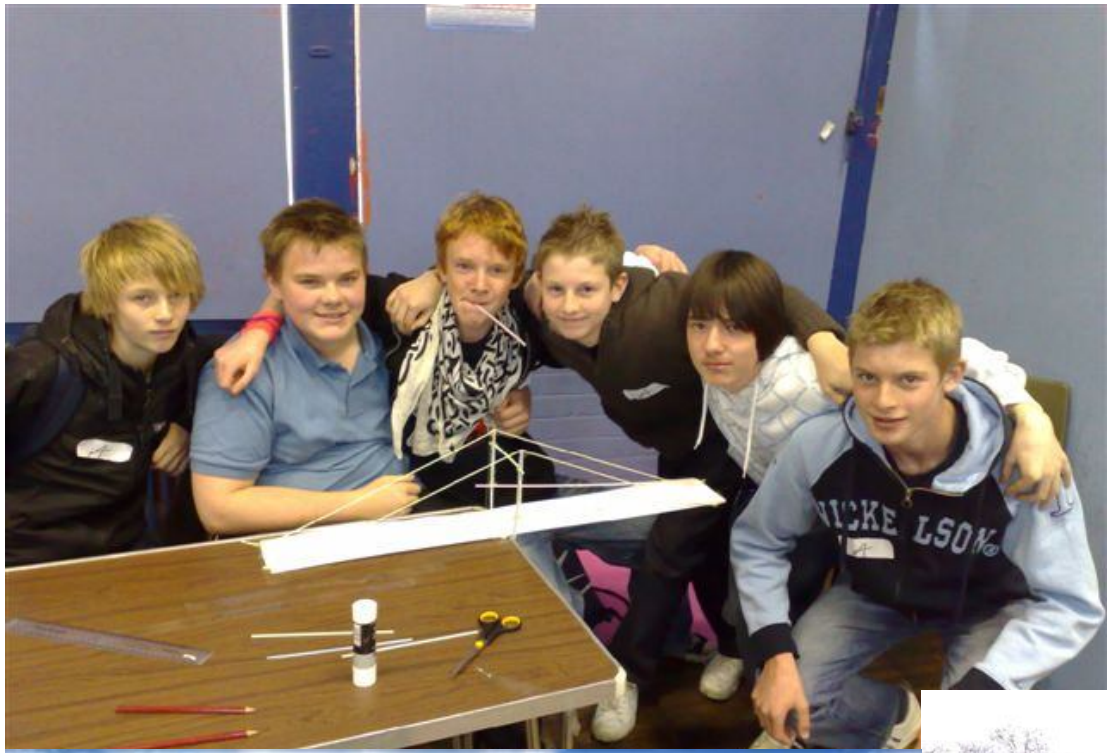
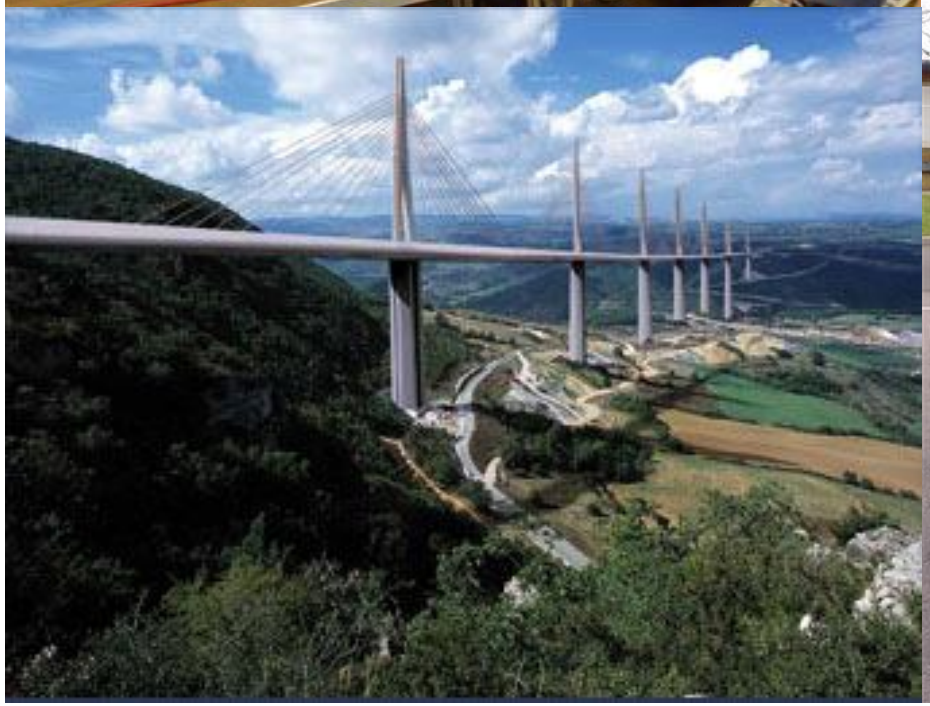


Engineering & Construction Themed event

University of Hertfordshire



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Timeline
Motion Search

University staff development

- 14-19 briefing by DCSF
- Dialogue with departments
- Dialogue with learning resources staff
- Faculty recruitment committees
- Admissions tutors training
- Involvement in Diploma activities
- University staff as parents

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Diploma delivery staff development

- Dialogue with primary UH diploma contact
- Dialogue with departmental staff
- Planning events
- Use of student ambassadors
- Joint activity with LEA and Connexions
- Hosting meetings and network events
- Case studies

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Your challenges

- Your university position – “top and bottom”
- Prospectus and publicity
- University staff understanding
- Processing applications – offers etc
- Number of applications from Diploma students
- Cost of engagement
- Attainment by Diploma students

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Engage for success

- Involvement gives clearing understanding
- Range of learning styles students experience
- Showcase university and courses
- Potential students make a more informed choice
- University staff understanding of post 16 courses
- Breakdown barriers
- Focus on individual's potential

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