



EVOLVE Newsletter July 2009

Project Launched

Everyone is aware that we are currently going through a recession – you can't pick up a newspaper or turn on the news without coming across those familiar words "Credit Crunch". What people are NOT so aware of is that an exciting project has been launched in Norfolk to counter the economic downturn.

The Evolve Project is a programme designed to provide recession support to Norfolk by supporting individuals, businesses and the voluntary and community sector across the county through the recession and helping them into a stronger position as the economy recovers. It will be delivered across the county by the Evolve Partnership, which includes: City College Norwich, Norfolk County Council, Norwich University College of the Arts and The University of East Anglia.

Evolve, funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, is specifically designed to help unemployed/underemployed recent graduates, middle managers who have been made redundant or are at risk of redundancy, and the owners/directors/senior managers of small/medium enterprises across the county.

The programme's offering is diverse in order to tailor its services to best meet the needs of the individuals and businesses it seeks to support. The range of activities on the programme include: diagnostic careers assessments, business coaching, mentoring partnerships, graduate internships, carbon change agent training, and a programme of short courses covering areas such as leadership management, entrepreneurship and IT skills. Evolve is working with local District and Borough Councils to ensure the programme is delivered across the county in order to serve as many people as possible.

Partner News

The Evolve Partnership has met during the Project's early phases to establish an operational scheme and timetable for the programme.

City College Norwich has established a Summer Programme of short courses, which provide skills development in the following areas: Leadership Management, Advanced IT, Entrepreneurship, Creativity and Innovation, and Service and Customer Orientation. Courses are currently up and running, so contact us today to book your first free session! For more details please visit the website at: www.ccn.ac.uk/ccn3/general/evolve.htm. To book a place on one of CCN's courses please e-mail: evolve@ccn.ac.uk.

Norwich University College of the Arts (NUCA) has launched its Creative Mentoring Partnership initiative within Evolve. There are currently 15 partnerships underway, with new places on the scheme becoming available in September. For more information and to register your interest, please visit the website at: www.uea.ac.uk/nbs/evolve/mentoring

Careers Advice experts at the UEA Careers Centre are providing personal careers assessments and guidance to recent graduates and middle managers of businesses and voluntary and community organisations. As well as providing this ongoing support, the Careers Centre will also be running 5-week career coaching courses called “Skills For The Search”.

This will include training in:

- Job values and skills
- CVs, job applications and interviews
- Hidden and visible job markets
- Networking and barriers to employment

For more information on the “Skills For The Search” courses please visit the website at: <http://www.uea.ac.uk/nbs/evolve/search> and to book a place please e-mail evolve@uea.ac.uk.

Finally, the UEA Careers Service will be working with the Norwich Business School and City College to provide tailored Business Coaching sessions. This will involve matching the needs identified by the business to the areas of expertise available to the Project through its Coaching Directory of business coaching experts and will hopefully lead to the establishment of business mentoring circles that will live on after Evolve. More details on Evolve’s Business Coaching will become available on the website soon.

Norwich’s Low Carbon Innovation Centre (LCIC) has devised a programme of short courses in Carbon Management to introduce carbon knowledge into local businesses and organisations. Participants will be trained in areas such as Low Carbon Energy and Carbon Footprinting. For more information on these courses please visit the website at:

<http://www.uea.ac.uk/nbs/evolve/courses>. To book a place on a Carbon Management course please e-mail evolve@uea.ac.uk.

The LCIC will also be running a Carbon Change Agent programme, for middle to top management individuals who will become carbon change champions within their organisations. This will provide businesses with the opportunity to profit from the low-carbon economy. For more information on the Carbon Change Agents Programme please visit the website at:

www.uea.ac.uk/nbs/evolve/carbon, where you can also register your interest.

The UEA’s Research, Enterprise and Engagement Office is currently organising the launch of Evolve’s Graduate Internship Programme. This programme is designed to match up recent graduates with graduate level vacancies or strategic projects identified by businesses and voluntary/community sector organisations. Internships are a proven way for these businesses and organisations to inject fresh talent into the workplace to address strategic business issues and kick start graduates careers. For more information on Evolve’s Graduate Internship programme please visit the website at: <http://www.uea.ac.uk/nbs/evolve/internships>. To register your interest as a business or a graduate, please e-mail: evolveinternship@uea.ac.uk.

Spreading the word – EEEgr Summer Conference

Evolve recently attended the EEEgr Summer Conference at the Newmarket Racing Centre. Over 150 delegates representing the energy industry and its supply chain companies were in attendance and made full use of the time available to visit the exhibition area, where Evolve had a very visible presence. A great deal of interest was expressed in the project and its aims and several companies and individuals registered on the day to receive more information as it becomes available, as a result of which an offer to host an intern was sent through to the project team the following week. Subsequently, a business breakfast, facilitated by EEEgr has been scheduled to meet with 15 of the key companies from the energy sector in the Great Yarmouth area.

Upcoming Events

Local events across the county of Norfolk will be a key opportunity to publicise Evolve's work. Upcoming events on the project's calendar are:

- Diss On View, 18th September, 1-6pm, The Park Hotel, Diss
- Engineer Your Future, 23rd September, Hethel Engineering Centre, Hethel
- Energise Your Future, 25th September, Hethel Engineering Centre, Hethel

Contact Information

If you would like more information about Evolve and to keep up to date with new developments, please visit our website at:

www.evolvernorfolk.co.uk

To register as an individual please go to:

www.uea.ac.uk/nbs/evolve/individual

To register as a business please go to:

www.uea.ac.uk/nbs/evolve/business

Alternatively, you can contact the Project Team directly:

By e-mail: evolve@uea.ac.uk

By telephone: 01603591816

