

- Project Name: Research towards the development of a Post-Graduate Certificate in Creative Therapies at the University of Worcester.

Amendment History:

Version	Date	Reason for Amendment
No. one		
2/5/2009		New Proposal

Name of Project Manager & Contact Details

Maureen Gamble 01905 855422
m.gamble@worc.ac.uk

Document Distribution

<i>Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Action/Information</i>
Debbie Lambert	LLN	Manager of the LLN	For information
Geoffrey Elliott	UW	Members of the Steering Group	To approve the proposal
Chris Morecroft	WCT		
Ian Peake	HCT		
Mike Rookes	OU		
Gail Rothnie	UoB		
Donna Obrey	LLN	Project Officer for the LLN	To track and monitor project

Background

In 2008, colleagues in the Institute of Humanities & Creative Arts and the Institute of Health & Society considered developing an MA or MSc in Art Therapy or Creative Therapies. After some initial research, it was decided not to pursue this as the NHS climate had recently changed and there were few openings for art therapists with the demise of day hospitals, where many art therapists were traditionally based. Most trusts now only employ one or two art therapists if any at all and even then most need additional counselling or CBT qualifications and end up working in posts where they hardly use their art therapy skills.

However, arts graduates, including those from the University of Worcester, who had gained employment as artists or creative therapy workers in hospitals, healthcare settings and hospices, frequently reported back that there were few opportunities available to them to acquire some form of training to develop further skills or to gain professional recognition within their field.

It is within this context that colleagues from both Institutes would like to explore further the potential for developing a post-graduate qualification and/or CPD course for those interested in working or already working within the creative therapies. As all new course developments need to carefully consider any perceived need, this proposal would enable further research to be undertaken that would inform the type of course it might be; which existing modules might be suitable; the preferred delivery modes ie. part-time and/or short course; opportunities for work placements and/or

work-based learning elements. This would then inform a proposal to go forward for APC Approval.

Objectives of the Project

- To research market and explore opportunities for course development;
- To research the development needs of those already working in creative therapy or related areas;
- To engage with appropriate trusts and healthcare organizations where creative therapies take place to ensure that there is a will to support funded work-based learning opportunities and professional work placements;
- To develop a model of delivery which incorporates CPD, full and part time;
- To identify which existing modules would be appropriate for this course and if considered viable, prepare it for APC approval;
- To examine the potential for developing into a PGDip in Creative Therapies.

Project Approach

The project will be led by colleagues within IHCA but it will be a partnership between IHCA and IHS. Members of staff from both institutes would be bought out of teaching duties in order to explore the potential of developing a PGCert or CPD programme in Creative Therapies at UW. The project approach will include engagement with those working within the field, appropriate trusts and organizations to inform and guide course content, work-based elements and delivery methods.

To develop an MA/MSc in Art Therapy that is fully HPC accredited would require an art therapy specialist to write and develop the course, however a PGCert or CPD programme course would be able to draw on existing staff expertise and research interests. Colleagues in the Institute of Health & Society have recently undertaken research-evaluation of Art Therapy/Art for Health projects and have already a developed expertise in the "Talking therapies" and a number of links to other creative therapies such as Art for Health projects (ESO, Canal Project in Hereford). Both institutes have developed modules that may be relevant in psychological therapies and creative arts courses. The art team are currently working on an HEA funded collaborative research project with the University for the Arts London on case studies looking at art, creativity and Mental (ill) Health.

Scope:

A Key Products from the project

- Research that will support the development of a course offering a professional qualification or CPD opportunity for those already working within creative therapies and for those who wishing to find employment in it;
- Staff development opportunities for UW staff through cross-institute working;
- Closer working with trusts, organisations, community groups and public bodies;
- A course that demonstrates that it is responsive to the changing needs of the workforce and to 21st century working practices;

B Out of Scope

The project will not cover the marketing of the course or the writing of a Course Handbook.

Constraints

Staff availability and time

Partnership working between IHCA and IHS to agree resources for joint course delivery

Not having employers/Placement providers support

Not obtaining APC approval

Initial Project Case

The funding will be used to enable some release of teaching duties during 09/10 for key staff

to carry out the networking, research and to prepare for APC approval.

Benefits of the Project

To students

- The opportunity to contribute to the development of a course
- Academic recognition for the role of creative therapists within a healthcare setting
- Access to work-based learning and flexible learning modes of course delivery
- The opportunity to further their career options

To employers/placement providers

- The opportunity to provide appropriate staff development to support changing working practices
- Input into training courses through work-based learning and/or professional work placements

To UW –

- The opportunity to increase our post-graduate offer through work-based learning
- To further develop collaborative working with external partners
- To further support cross-Institute working at UW

Key Assumptions

The availability of the key members of staff to complete the project on time

And an appropriate course is prepared for the APC approval process

Timescale

To be complete by February 2010

To be ready for APC by February 2010

Costs

Based on cover for teaching hours to allow designated staff to undertake research into potential need and type of course required, to network with employers, set up professional work placements, potential students and acquire other information necessary to develop and produce documentation ready for the APC Approval process.

Estimated costs of £5000.

How will the project be evaluated?

- Through recruitment and interest in the course
- Offers of support from employers and other positive feedback

- Funding sources or professional placements identified to support/attract students

How will the project be sustained?

IHCA and HIS will develop this course once approved by APC

Implications for Equality & Diversity

All procedures would follow good working practices and conducted within an ethic of respect for persons, respect for knowledge, and respect for democratic values.

Initial Risk Log

The following table summarises the risks that have been identified that may prevent the project being completed to the required quality, budget and timescale. The probability and impact of each risk has been graded as low, medium or high to indicate the relative importance attached to each element of risk.

Risks	Probability	Impact	Containment Plan
The lack of time for key members of the team to meet to develop course	low	high	Search for other staff to join the team
Inability to identify appropriate employers/employees and professional placement providers	low	high	Extend search and refine course offer
Course not ready in time for APC approval process	low	medium	Delay course start date

Project Team

Maureen Gamble (IHCA)
 Dominic Upton (IHS)
 Huw Richards (IHS)
 David Broster (IHCA)
 Fran Leighton (IHS)
 Pippa Galpin (IHCA)
 Janet Harrison (IHCA)