



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**June 2017**

### **NOVUS in the heart of logistics**

#### **Supplying the best talent to fill graduates gap in logistics sector**

- **Business and supply chain management BSc course launches in September**
- **Aston University teams up with NOVUS to offer first full course in Midlands**
- **Course aims to help address graduate gap in logistics sector**

Aston University is to build on its reputation for providing some of the world's best supply chain talent with the introduction of a full NOVUS degree course in logistics and supply chain management.

The full NOVUS Business and Supply Chain Management BSc (Hons) course starts in September 2017 and is NOVUS' first expansion of its scheme outside of the University of Huddersfield, where it launched the programme four years ago.

Ed Sweeney, Professor of Logistics at Aston University and Director of the Aston Logistics and Systems Institute, said: "Aston University is based in the heart of the logistics sector and is the perfect location for NOVUS to expand its scheme and take the next exciting step in its delivery of supply chain management talent.

"We have been running NOVUS Lite with NOVUS since 2015 and are proud to announce the introduction of its full degree course in business and supply chain management. We expect the course to be very attractive to applicants because it guarantees graduate employment in a supply chain management role with one of NOVUS' 25 sponsor companies, as well as providing students with guest lectures, mentoring and summer and third year placements."

Andy Kaye, chairman of the NOVUS Trust and CEO of Bis Henderson Group, said: "We saw our first cohort of graduates in July 2016 and are committed to providing superlative graduates as the long term, strategic answer to the serious skills gaps and shortfall of graduate talent evident in the logistics profession.

"There are currently around 120 students seeing the benefits of NOVUS and, with two universities now offering the full course, there is the capacity to have many more."

The NOVUS sponsor companies comprise Arla, asos, Bis Henderson, CEVA, Clipper, Culina, Cummins, DHL, Howdens, Hoyer, Kuehne + Nagel, Lloyd Fraser, Morrisons, Muller, Nestle, PZ Cussons, Sainsbury's, SIG, Smiths News, Travis Perkins, Uniserve, Wincanton, World Fuel Services, XPO and Yusen.

Aston University is ranked in the top 100 universities for supply chain talent across the globe in the SCM World University 100 report. The university introduced its acclaimed MSc programme for supply chain management in 2008, which is jointly delivered by the engineering and business schools.

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**Notes to the editor**

Founded in 1895 and a University since 1966, **Aston University** has been always been a force for change. For 50 years the University has been transforming lives through pioneering research, innovative teaching and graduate employability success. Aston is renowned for its opportunity enabler through broad access and inspiring academics, providing education that is applied and has real impact on all areas of society, business and industry.

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