

Training tomorrow's masters of innovation

The one-year Master's degree in Entrepreneurship and Innovation offered by the University of Luxembourg in conjunction with the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce is in direct response to the EU's Lisbon Strategy, which called for "making knowledge and innovation the real engines to drive lasting growth".

Diversity is an important element in creativity and thus in innovation, and this is reflected in the student population, which hails from diverse business and cultural backgrounds. The programme, delivered in English,



is structured into six knowledge blocks. The first covers an overview of entrepreneurship, theories and skills. The next three modules use the common theme of a business plan to demonstrate the synergies in technical entrepreneurship of the start-up process as well as marketing and finance. The fifth block offers a toolbox for entrepreneurs, and the sixth block consists of project work and a Master's thesis.

The programme successfully links the academic and business worlds by incorporating student internships at local mentoring companies. Students initially spend an average of one day per week at their mentor companies in the first months of the programme, and this attendance increases to full-time by the end of the programme. Matching students and companies early in the process is key to the fruitful relationship between faculty, student and the mentor companies which, as a consequence of the experience, will improve their readiness to transition their business towards an efficient knowledge-driven economy. ♦