

Training in Basic Microbiology and Clean Room Technology



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Client:

Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics

School:

Pharmacy and Chemistry
Biomolecular Sciences

Staff:

David Phipps
Shaquil Choudary
Bob Jones
Touraj Ehtezazi

Project:

As a result of discussions between the Business Development Team and the Speke-based affiliate of Novartis AG, a multi national biotechnology company, it was apparent that the company had a pressing need to demonstrate improved staff training as part of a continuing process of improvement to build upon exemplary standards.

At short notice Dr David Phipps and a team in Biomolecular Sciences were able to develop and deliver a two-day basic microbiology (theory and practice) course for 120 people.



One of the Novartis training groups at LJMU



To build on this, a team from Pharmacy and Chemistry, in conjunction with Novartis and the Partnership for Learning (PfL) rapidly developed a bespoke training course in clean room working which was part-funded by the European Social Fund and co-financed by the Learning and Skills Council under the Skill Investor programme. The course was designed to be delivered both at LJMU and on site at Novartis. Feedback from both participants and management at Novartis has been extremely positive.

Based upon the success of the initial programme of training, Novartis would like to extend the partnership and it is hoped that LJMU, in conjunction with PfL, will now be providing a number of introductory and refresher courses on an annual basis. The Business Development Team is also in discussions with Novartis about extending the training globally to the rest of the company and about rolling it out to the wider life sciences sector.

Client benefits:

- Novartis is satisfying business critical requirements set by external regulators
- The initial phase of the course was delivered at short notice allowing the client to plan ahead against a tight schedule
- Offers the possibility of the Speke site providing a lead for Novartis internationally in partnership with LJMU

Academic and Student benefits

- Substantial reputational advantage to LJMU. This project has been used as an exemplar for LJMU capacity in this area
- Reflects and reinforces current teaching to LJMU undergraduates
- Similar courses may be offered elsewhere through the LJMU/Novartis partnership

