



## ACBEE - Accelerating Change in Built Environment Education

*NEWS RELEASE – April 28, 2003*

### **FIRST EXEMPLAR CASE STUDIES FOR BUILT ENVIRONMENT HIGHER EDUCATION**

### **ACBEE highlights quality examples of successful university-industry collaboration**

ACBEE, the Accelerating Change in Built Environment Education programme has published the first group of case studies that exemplify successful university-industry collaboration. They are the result of a call last year to the universities, industry and professional bodies who represent the built environment to work together to develop and promote quality, collaborative education for the sector.

Eighteen case studies of high quality are now available for study (via the website [www.cebe.ltsn.ac.uk/learning/acbee/index](http://www.cebe.ltsn.ac.uk/learning/acbee/index)). Further case studies are due for publishing in the coming months. The initial studies – from universities across the UK and industry partners from all sections of the built environment and from overseas – embrace both graduate and undergraduate courses and programmes.

“It is very encouraging that we have already been able to identify so many courses that point the way to future built environment education,” says ACBEE chairman, John Hobson, who is a former director of the Construction Directorate at the DTI. “It is also pleasing that enthusiasm and support for our approach in highlighting these needs is growing, both within universities and across the industry.”

ACBEE was established in 2003 to encourage the built environment industry, universities and professional bodies to work together to improve dialogue and provide more relevant training and education for the future. It promotes the need for courses and teaching programmes that align with key industry themes and which demonstrate active university, industry or institutional partnerships. Most of the case study promoters are also planning to develop methods of measuring the success of their courses in order to demonstrate improved industry performance.

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News release / 2

The ACBEE programme has been funded by the Sector Skills Council for Construction – ConstructionSkills - and forms part of the accelerating change agenda endorsed by the Strategic Forum for Construction. ACBEE is guided by a pan-industry steering group comprising senior representatives from CITB-ConstructionSkills, CEBE (Centre for Education in the Built Environment), LTSN Engineering, Construction Industry Council and Constructing Excellence, as well as a number of academic and industry specialists.

The case studies, details of the ACBEE programme and a template for those who wish to participate by encouraging or providing additional case studies are all accessible via the website ref: [www.cebe.ltsn.ac.uk/learning/acbee/index.php](http://www.cebe.ltsn.ac.uk/learning/acbee/index.php).

Links to the case studies are also being provided via the ACBEE steering group partner websites of CITB-ConstructionSkills, Construction Industry Council and Constructing Excellence. A prospectus (also available via the ACBEE website) has been prepared for those requiring further details of the programme.

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Note to editors:

CITB-ConstructionSkills, CIC, and CITB (NI) are working in partnership as the Sector Skills Council for Construction. LTSN is the universities Learning and Teaching Support Network of which both CEBE and LTSN Engineering are part.

Media enquires to:

**John Hobson**, Chairman, ACBEE

Tel:01827 880967. Mobile: 07759 735385. e-mail: [johnhobson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:johnhobson@tiscali.co.uk)

**Eddie Coulter**, ACBEE Steering Group

Tel: 01243 543072. Mobile: 07889 020219. e-mail: [eddie@eddiecoulter.com](mailto:eddie@eddiecoulter.com)

General enquiries to:

Pam Lowe,

Centre for Education in the Built Environment (CEBE)

The School of Construction and Property Management

Bridgewater Building, University of Salford, M7 1NU

Tel 0161 295 5944, Fax 0161 295 5011 - e-mail [p.lowe@salford.ac.uk](mailto:p.lowe@salford.ac.uk)