**Strathclyde Disruptive Technologies with an Entrepreneurial Mindset Module**

**Commencing January 2024**

**Background to Programme**

The University of Southern California (USC) are one of Strathclyde’s International Strategic Partners. USC run ‘Disruptive Technologies with an Entrepreneurial Mindset’ module for community college students who aspire to gain entry to a University degree. The module addresses a variety of technology innovations, the importance of big data analytics, cloud computing, artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things (IoT). The module is designed to introduce students to a variety of disruptive technologies or simply disruptions that can change human behaviour, create new markets and eventually displace previously established market leaders.

**Strathclyde involvement in Programme**

USC has invited Strathclyde to include some of our students in the module. Initially college students who are seeking to articulate to Strathclyde were considered (i.e. similar students to those being taught by USC), but it was felt that the content of the module may be too onerous for students in addition to their college work. We are therefore seeking to offer this module to students in all four Faculties at Strathclyde as a credit bearing elective. This will be a level 1 elective, but will be available to students in other years as detailed below.

**Strathclyde elective**

The module will be supported by Science. All teaching on the module will be undertaken online by staff at USC. However, in order to be able to award credits, Strathclyde will assess students. The module lead will be a member of staff at Strathclyde who has expertise in the use of technology.

The module provides a fantastic opportunity for students to experience a global classroom alongside students in California and benefit from working together with them as well as benefiting from experienced members of USC staff and inspirational guest lecturers, who are often very senior leaders.

**Students who will be offered the module**

Initially this elective will only be offered to a maximum of 16 students (split between the Faculties), due to the limitations on USC in running the programme. Students who have already articulated from college into Strathclyde will be offered a place on the elective initially. If places are not filled by this cohort of students then they will be offered to the wider Strathclyde student body. Places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis, aiming to maintain a balance between the Faculties.

**Support for students from Strathclyde staff**

The Faculty of Science will provide a tutor to support Strathclyde students taking the module. A member of staff in Science will work with this tutor and will also mark and provide feedback on students’ assessments.

**Potential Risks**

Whilst this is a fantastic opportunity for our students, it is recognised that there is a risk associated with the proposed elective as all of the teaching is being carried out by staff who are not employed by Strathclyde. However, this builds on the success of the Leadership Programme which USC already offers to Strathclyde students in HaSS and SBS. USC have committed to running this module for their own students and thus the module is unlikely not to go ahead. If it were to be cancelled, then Strathclyde students could choose another elective from Strathclyde’s offerings instead.

As regards the content of the module, a full syllabus has been provided to Strathclyde. All four Faculties have agreed that the content of the module is excellent and provides an exciting opportunity for our students. The module is also being put through CCAP to ensure Strathclyde Quality Assurance processes are followed.

**July 2023**