Mont Rose College of Management & Sciences
UKPRN: 1002377

Introduction:

Over the last 10 years Mont Rose College underwent major changes. A new building was purchased in 2014 on Cranbrook Road, Ilford. We moved into the new building in August, 2014. The building was refurbished to provide all the required high standard learning resources and facilities to the students. Mont Rose College purchased an additional building on the same Cranbrook Road in 2016 to provide more learning resources to the students like well-equipped lecture rooms, library, computer labs, multi-faith room and student break out area.

The College also signed a partnership agreement with New Buckinghamshire University in 2015 to offer students progression routes.

Vision and Code:

We encourage self-motivated reasoning, plus independent and creative thinking to engage students in acquiring the vital ability to learn how to learn.

Interaction in class is essential to gain knowledge. Our lectures also bring real life experiences to the subject. This way we help students to work self realisation, due to this they become more innovative and their thought process level increases.

The College aims:

We aim to:

1. To provide and deliver high quality education, learning and assessment across the whole college
2. To provide relevant and supportive opportunities to all our students
3. To support the professional development of staff
4. To improve our services for the learners with learning difficulties and disabilities
5. To embed e-learning opportunities within all courses at the college
6. To respect and promote diversity

We have analysed the performance indicators for the college and would like to give more explanation for the following metrics.

Core metric:

1. Teaching on my course:
   In this category the core metric value is in the top 10% of outstanding performance. This was achieved by providing students the opportunities of research, practical experience, work placements and helping students in their personal and professional development.

2. Assessment & Feedback:
   In this category the core metric value is in the top 10% of outstanding performance. This was achieved by providing formative and summative feedback promptly and by also guiding the students how they can further improve their performance.

3. Academic Support:
   In this category the core metric value is in the top 10% of outstanding performance. This was achieved by providing excellent teaching and extra one to one tutorial help throughout the course length.

4. Continuation:
   In this category of core metrics we achieved 5.2% above the benchmark. This continuation rates are improving gradually and according to our current records (HESA AP Submission

16/17) the overall continuation rate increased to 91%. If using the same benchmark as for 15/16 academic year, it shows that the core metric value for continuation is of "outstanding performance", in the top 10 % category. The steady growth in continuation rates is due to the extensive support that we provide to our students. From the most recent NSS results

we learned that the students are highly satisfied with the College operations. However, we look for further ways to improve our processes to have a higher impact on student continuation rates. We work towards achieving continuation rates of 95% in 17/18AY.

5. Employment or Further Study:
   We have achieved 92.1% core value for "employment and further study", which is 0.8% higher than the benchmark. One of the aims of our organisation is to help students to get into employment. Therefore, the college regularly arranges visits of Recruiting Agencies, where students willingly participate.

   The college introduced the "Mont Rose Angels" programme this year. The aim of the programme is to invite high profile business leaders to meet our students, listening to their business ideas and providing valuable advice and recommendations. The programme will last for a year. The purpose of initiating this programme is to help students in starting their own businesses which will in turn will improve the employability of the students. The College will be conducting a survey among the students to analyse how this programme benefited those, who participated in it. Based on their feedback the College will consider arranging this type of programme on an annual basis.

   The students also have an opportunity to attend the workshops, arranged by the National Career Service, twice a month. There the students are working on perfecting their CV's and improving interviewing skills.

   The Mont Rose College established its own Employability Centre inside the college. At the time of writing this report, the most recent information received is a report provided by the employability Centre about its' most recent operations (please see the Appendix 1)

Recently the IT department of Mont Rose College started developing the online platform, which will provide students valuable sources of information, practices and other training materials to help them in finding an employment (CV writing, Interview questions, work ethics). Additionally, the system will be sending automated emails to the students with job offers, once it becomes available on Recruitment Agencies Job Database within the given radius. The key tabs that are currently in a developmental process:

- Dashboard (students can track their record)
- Students' Progress bar
- Programmes (All the Assessment Materials, like: Personality, Motivation, Strength, Temperament and etc.)
- Hunting Jobs (Social-Media Networking, Techniques and Methods)
- CV and Applications (Building CV)
- Interviews and Offers (Preparing for Interviews; Negotiating Offers)
- Job Research (Search Engine, chosen Industry Report, Motivational Career Stories, LinkedIn Networking, Recruiter Database).

The IT department is planning to complete the development of the platform by 1st April 2018. We anticipate a huge student interest and an improved student employment following the launch of the

platform. The College also offers diverse learning progression routes if the students decide to continue their studies.

6. Highly Skilled Employment of Further Study:
   In this category we have achieved 58.7% core value which is 8.1% below the benchmark. Most of our students are mature and from disadvantaged backgrounds. As explained above, the College is providing the variety of resources to help the students to progress into employment. We understand that the age factor and the limited work experience impacts the type of jobs, students are offered, after completing their studies. For this reason, we believe, our "highly skilled" employment rate is lower. However, the College is working to close this gap as much as possible. The Mont Rose College arranges employability training sessions, specifically designed for mature people and people with little or no practical work experience in the fields they study. After analysing the split metrics we identified that the male students receive less highly skilled job offers than women. It is difficult to explain, why women are more successful than men in achieving higher skilled jobs. However, we recognise that such a gap exists and try to close it by organising the Employability Training sessions for specific groups of students (males; females; younger students, mature students), where the main emphasis is concentrated to overcome the issues, which are specific to these groups. The students responded that these sessions help them to build confidence and preparing them better for the job interviews.

Based on NSS results achieved, the Students' Union prepared a feedback report about the services provided by the Mont Rose College (please see the Appendix 2)

The below is the Mont Rose College response to the student's feedback report (please refer to the Appendix 2)

The Mont Rose College's response to the students' feedback report

We were very happy to receive such a positive response from our students, which shows that we are going in the right direction. The College took into account the students' suggestions, how to improve the employability chances further and actioned the following:

- *Academic Skills workshops to be available on a regular basis or on-line to the existing students, especially regarding confidence gaining for the Power Point presentations*

The College is recording the Academic Skills Workshops and uploading on Moodle for all students to access at their convenience.

- *Public speaking workshops to be available*

Public speaking workshops are part of the Academic Skills Workshops, offered to all students at the start of their courses for free. Following the students' feedback we will be arranging public speaking workshops apart of those included in the Academic Skills module.

- *Professional development and career workshops to be organised more often and at various times to be more accessible for the evening students*

National Career Service meets the students at the College every week. They offer students to subscribe for one year free services. During that year they make a personal career development plan for each student. The College is also arranging some workshops at around 4PM for the students, starting their classes in the afternoon.

Appendix 1.

MRC Employbility Centre:
Producing graduates equipped for their future is a key part of our higher education institution. At Mont Rose College, we place as much emphasis on gaining skills relevant to the workplace as we do on the academic discipline.

Vision
Our vision is to help every student to get into employment by providing training, placements and employability opportunities available in the market.

Mission
The aim of this centre is to deliver a high quality service according to the students' needs to enable them achieve their personal goals and aspirations by achieving employment, contributing to the business and the community in which they will live and work.

What do we do?

We help students to plan their future and enhance their employability. We offer National Career Services workshops to help students with their career planning (development of CVs, applications and interviews).

Our Career Advisors are available every day during term times. The students have the opportunity to book advance individual appointments with the Career Advisor to discuss job opportunities based on their qualifications, experience and individual needs.

We also arrange group training sessions where we invite specialist National Career Services

Upcoming events in 2018:

Levy Restaurant:
Job matching services on the 12th of January 2018 from 2pm to 3pm. The purpose of this event is to help our Hospitality students to find some flexible work opportunities within branches of that chain restaurant.

Reed Recruitment Agency:
CV writing tips and Job matching services on the 18th of Jan 2018 from 2pm to 3pm. The purpose of this event is to help our students in drafting an eye catching CV and also help them to network with Reed agents for job opportunities.

National Careers Service:
CV and Interview skills workshop on the 26th of January 2018.

"Dressing Code" separate sessions for women and men on 7th February 2018.

Levy restaurant:
O2 Levy Restaurant branch visit on the 8th of February 2018. The purpose of this event is to let our Hospitality students exploring and getting tips from the Levy Restaurant Kitchen and customer service departments.

The Fresh Careers Fair:
8th of March 2018 at Kia Oval from 10am to 3pm. The purpose of this event is to help our Hospitality students discovering the huge variety of career paths they can head down in the fresh produce industry and in the food service and hospitality sectors.

Levy restaurant:
Somerset House branch visit on the 16th of May 2018. The purpose of this event is to let our

Hospitality students exploring and getting tips from the Levy Restaurant, Kitchen and servicing department.

These upcoming events will enable our students in building professional relationships with some potential employers and recruitment agencies. More events and workshops will be organized from January 2018 to December 2018.

Speak to us
Whether students are an undergraduate, postgraduate or graduated from Mont Rose College, our Career Advisers are available to help. We offer a number of ways to speak to an adviser:

- Quick queries
- Guidance appointments
- Mock interviews

Quick Queries
1. Getting feedback on your CV/ application forms*
2. Discussing relevant work experience
3. Discussing job opportunities and work placements

Appendix 2.

Students' feedback regarding the services offered by Mont Rose College

(Written by the Student Union representatives)

Mont Rose College is known for providing a variety of courses mainly related to business, management and hospitality. As the current students, we all agree that the classes are conducted in an interesting and engaging way, and at a very high standard. The tutors are eager to share their knowledge and passion for the subjects they teach, and are always ready to provide useful tips and answers regarding our future prospects.

Teaching on my course

The college provides a very high standard of teaching. It is clear that the tutors are not only knowledgeable, but also passionate about the area, and this passion is often being ignited in us.

The classes and teaching materials are usually prepared in a way that gives us plenty of opportunities to discuss the subject and also learn from each-others' experience. The theory is always supported by the real life examples, which makes the subjects easier to understand and further apply in our assignments.

Assessment and feedback

We generally agree that the assessments are fairly done and we are given plenty of opportunities to apply necessary improvements to our assignments and presentations.

All the tutors are available to discuss our progress throughout the whole course, therefore making us feel safe with the final report submitted.

All the comments provided in the feedback are usually constructive and encouraging for us to achieve the highest marks. The tutors direct us towards additional materials and ways to research the information necessary for our studies.

Academic support

Apart from additional tutoring sessions, Mont Rose College provides a variety of support in order to make us progress in our academic skills. The availability of library resources on every subject and easy access to the Internet and a computer lab, certainly help in our studies.

Those who struggle with computer skills are offered regular training sessions from the college IT specialists.

Help with academic writing and presentation skills is also available, which definitely boost our self-confidence, in regards to public speaking, especially when it is being assessed and "judged".

We generally feel that our academic needs are being met and the help we might need is always available to us. All the requirements regarding our final assessments are clearly explained to us during the classes. The teaching materials designed specifically to meet those criteria are easily accessible via Moodle (VLE), helping us access them at any time and from anywhere.

Employment after study

Most of the students manage to find jobs in the field, they had studied here, some reaching managerial positions straight away.

Mont Rose College offers many opportunities for us to increase our employability, such as:

- CV and job interview workshops conducted by National Career Service providing useful tips on how to write a winning CV and prepare for the job interview
- Career fairs and meetings with the employment agencies representatives give chances to submit our CV and job applications, and learn about further opportunities regarding our professional life
- Guest speakers, who present the insights of the industry, share their experience and generally show the career opportunities and ways to reach them.
- Work placements are available in the college for all students who are interested in gaining the work experience.

Further suggestions

In order to improve the quality even further, we would suggest the following:

- Academic Skills workshops to be available on a regular basis or on-line to the existing students, especially regarding confidence gaining for the Power Point presentations
- Public speaking workshops to be available
- Professional development and career workshops to be organised more often and at various times to be more accessible for the afternoon students