



NEWS RELEASE

Informatics achieves another milestone in the recent University of Wales MBA Quinquennial Review

11 Nov 2005, Singapore – Informatics recently welcomed the conclusions from the University of Wales, MBA Quinquennial review and agreed to its recommendations for bringing the programme to an even higher plateau.

"The University of Wales considers the Quinquennial review to be a major event in the regular monitoring of a validated programme. I am pleased that the online MBA offered via PurpleTrain.com meets the standards we expect of such a programme. The review panel also made a number of conditions and recommendations in which PurpleTrain.com can enhance the delivery and competitiveness of the MBA and I am certain that when implemented, these will further improve a degree programme which is already of high calibre." said Mr. Huw Hughes, Head of the Validation Services Unit of the University of Wales.

A Quinquennial review is the process where the progress of a validated course is critically appraised at five yearly intervals, and any proposals for change are considered by a Review Panel representing the University of Wales in order to confirm that the course remains academically valid and continues to meet the conditions for an award of the University of Wales.

The course review process begins with the regular monitoring exercise by Informatics, which is formally reported using annual documentation mechanisms. This evidence and the annual reports submitted by the External Examiner and the Moderator, which are accumulated during the quinquennium, provide the background to the course overview and critical appraisal submission, which is prepared for consideration by the Review Panel. The course document provides an accurate record of the course as it operates at the end of the Quinquennium and provides background details for the course overview and critical appraisal.

The Review Panel in the recently conducted review included the following luminaries:

Dr Sion Hughes (Chair)
School of Art & Design
North East Wales Institute of Higher Education

Mr. Nic Apostolides
Business School
University of the West of England

Professor Don Bathie
Business School
University of Paisley

Professor Steven Thomas
Department of Management



Southampton University

Mr. Chris Burke
Moderator
University of Wales, Bangor

Mr. Huw F Hughes
Head of Validation Services
University of Wales

The critical appraisal, in which all members of the course team engage, is of central importance in the review process, and in its written form provides crucial evidence for the Review Panel. The most effective critical appraisals present a balance between statistical information and objective evaluative comment, incorporating feedback from students and other sources, and providing a clear indication of the action taken to solve problems that have been identified.

“The Quinquennial Review is a crucial audit for Informatics, as it puts the entire programme conduct into perspective and where an unfavourable review can mean a potential halt to the continuation of the programme. Getting a resounding endorsement of our performance as an MBA validated degree provider is critical as it outlines our track record and potential for the future operation of the degree. That the panel had many positive comments en route to giving its blessings for the continued operation of the programme, is extremely encouraging.” said David Allan D’Souza, Director – Curriculum Development and Management, Postgraduate and Distance Learning.

For the last five years, Informatics has been offering this online Master qualification through its elearning portal, PurpleTrain.com. This course has benefited learners who are unable to commit to the rigours of a face to face MBA programme and who require the flexibility of being able to study from home or via a remote location. The course delivery model also favours students who prefer having a facility of being able to work on their programme at any point of time they choose to.

“We are looking forward to PurpleTrain developing the next phase of online delivery embracing the new range of highly portable communication and storage technologies becoming available for distance learning.” added Mr. Chris Burke, Moderator of University of Wales, Bangor.

For more information about the programme, please visit
www.informaticsgroup.com/programmes/mba

About PurpleTrain.com

PurpleTrain.com, the global e-Learning provider, started out as Asia's first e-Learning provider in 1999. It is the largest e-Learning provider outside the United States, with over 72,000 e-users, and offers Business, IT education and Health Sciences programmes, corporate training courses and education-related services.

PurpleTrain.com firmly supports continuous lifelong learning and provides students from all over the world with access to internationally renowned courses anytime, anywhere with minimal disruptions to their work and other obligations, and without having to leave home.

By combining innovative technology with world-class training content, PurpleTrain.com offers companies and individuals a high value, quality and effective online training solution. Its online courses range from Master and Bachelor degree programmes to diplomas and certificates, ranging from technical level to management level to cater for the varied needs of corporations and professionals.

Please visit www.purpletrain.com



About Informatics Group

The Informatics Group, listed on the Mainboard of the Stock Exchange of Singapore, was established in 1983, and is a multinational corporation providing lifelong learning services in information technology and business management. Informatics presently has a global network spanning more than 50 countries, offering programmes from O/A Levels (for international students) to undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. The Company has won many awards including the Singapore Brand Awards 2002 and 2003, the Singapore Quality Class for Private Education Organisations (SQC for PEO) as well as the People Developer Standards Award. In July year 2005, Informatics attained CaseTrust for Education, a scheme by the Consumer Association of Singapore to certify companies that have foundation for good quality student welfare practices and standards. Informatics has achieved the Golden Brand Award for the Education sector in Sep year 2005. The Golden Brand Award for the Education sector is a competition organized by the organizers of the International Brand Summit 2005. This award aims to give recognition to local and China enterprises for the good work done in building their companies' brands. The International Brand Summit (IBS) is an event held in conjunction with Global Entrepolis @Singapore 2005 a mega event jointly presented by the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) and the Singapore Business Federation. The IBS is organized to increase awareness on the importance of branding among local and regional enterprises and also to stimulate the growth of Singapore's brands and enterprises locally and regionally. For more information, please visit <http://www.informaticsgroup.com>.

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