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Considering responsible leadership

What do students think about responsible leadership? Hull University Business School, in its new essay competition, asked students to write an essay focusing on the school's commitment to responsible leadership for a complex world and its importance for students, employers and the international community complex world.

The competition was open to all business school students whether they are based in the UK, in Hull or Scarborough, or overseas in Bahrain, Oman, Hong Kong or Singapore. The winning essay was received by Solomon Oluwasen Oyeniran, an MSc Economics and Business student based at the Hull campus.

His essay, which highlights the problems in business leadership that ultimately led to the financial crisis, was praised by Director of Learning and Teaching, Dr Barbara Allan.

She said: 'Solomon has given us his insights into the role that responsible leaders will play in the future of business as the global economy recovers. There is a need for our graduates to understand and learn from mistakes that have been made in the past.'

'At the business school, we believe that teaching responsible leadership is integral to creating the business leaders of the future. Aspects of corporate social responsibility and ethical practices underpin and influence teaching on all our programmes, from the new MSc in Money, Banking and Finance to strand running through our common first year at undergraduate level.'

In his essay, Solomon says that responsible leadership requires sustainable yet impactful solutions that are advantageous to both business and society.

He said: 'Educational institutions must begin to implement responsible leadership training as a critical fibre of their curriculum. This will ultimately lead to a society that is sustained as well as business that is socially responsive, legitimate, and sustainable and profit oriented on a long-term basis.'

'To create better societies in which business can thrive profitably on the long run, responsible leadership principles must be imbibed, especially by students in business schools. This will lead to the society being sustained and the world being better off.'

Dr Allan concluded: 'This type of competition is important as it gives all students an opportunity to share their ideas and thoughts. The prize is a high value book token and I am sure that Solomon will use it to extend his knowledge further.'

Added 16 November 2010


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