

Anthony Jay, Business Development Manager (Aston Business School), Aston University, Birmingham, UK



For over 13 years Tony has worked in the Higher Education sector helping organisations from the private, public and third sectors to access and benefit from the expertise and capability available in universities.

For the past 5 years Tony has worked at Aston University, in particular supporting academics in Aston Business School to develop impactful collaborative research projects with business and other organisations. Prior to that, Tony managed a regional project funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). The project was a collaboration of all 13 universities in the West Midlands region. The broad objectives were to promote university capability to the business community; stimulate demand

for university services; help universities improve their capability and capacity to respond to business needs.

Before moving to the Higher Education sector, Tony gained extensive technical and commercial experience over 20 years whilst running his own small food manufacturing and tourism business and through holding senior positions in product development and commercial operations in the food industry.

For over 16 years, Tony worked with Tetley Tea Ltd (now part of Tata Global Beverages Ltd). Initially, Tony managed the company's strategic new product development program before moving to manage the technical, commercial and operational aspects of the instant tea division- including a complex global supply chain for instant tea and an emerging international range of 'ready to drink' tea beverages.

Dr Ben Clegg, Associate Dean for Business Partnerships and Community Engagement



Professor Ben Clegg has extensive experience in strategic development and operations improvement over a 20 year period working with large and small companies in the public and private sector.

His work has focused on the development of lean thinking, process improvement and the management of a company's wider enterprise of suppliers, partners and customers. Novel approaches include the use of multi-organisational enterprise management concepts and systems thinking. Previous high profile clients include Rolls-Royce Aerospace, BAESystems, Brintons Carpets, and Jaguar Land Rover.

He has taught strategy, operations and quality management to all levels of students from undergraduates to executive education. He has a leading text book 'Operations Management' published in 2011 with McGraw-Hill. He is research active having published over 100 refereed articles in conferences, journals and edited books; these include the Int. J. of Operations Management, the Int. J. of Production Research, the Int. J. of Production Economics and the IEEE Systems Man, and Cybernetics. In addition, he has also featured in over 40 press articles and publicly open seminars.

His work has successfully attracted and delivered over £2M of research funding over the last 10 years. The vast majority of this work has been in applied theory. He is also currently the Associate Dean for Business Partnerships at Aston Business School. Further details can be seen here (<http://www.aston.ac.uk/aston-business-school/staff/academic/oim/dr-ben-clegg/>).