

Enhancing Undergraduate Engagement through research and inquiry

NSW and ACT Regional Roundtable 23rd September 2009

WELCOME TO THE LEARNING CAFÉ

- ☛ As the name suggests, a learning café is a place where you come to engage in conversation leading to learning
- ☛ As far as possible, please you sit with people you don't know
- ☛ Start by introducing yourself and talking about where you are from, why you are here and any initiatives in engaging undergraduates in research and inquiry that you are involved in.

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LEARNING CAFÉ DISCUSSIONS CONTINUED

THEMES AND ISSUES

The following are issues that are likely to concern academics who are thinking of engaging undergraduates in research and inquiry.

1. How to assess inquiry-based learning
2. How to establish an undergraduate scholars' research program
3. Does the system of modular units help or inhibit the development of inquiry-based approaches to teaching and learning
4. How to deal with issues relating to research ethics
5. How to foster critical enquiry among students
6. How to deal with the myth that students just want lectures
7. How to engage large groups of students in research and inquiry
8. Funding excellence in integrating research and teaching
9. Time and workload issues
10. Ensuring students study the prerequisites
11. Students' motivation and preparedness
12. Can all students participate in research?
13. Is research only for high achieving students?
14. The role of undergraduate research in different kinds of institutions
15. The role of undergraduate research in regional Australia
16. Encouraging under-represented groups into graduate study
17. Training the next generation of researchers and academics
18. How to progressively develop research across the whole curriculum
19. How to specify open-ended learning outcomes
20. Who defines the research questions and how?



In your group: choose and discuss the issues that most concern the group. If there are issues that are not on the list, please feel free to introduce these into the discussion



On your own: identify two particular challenges you personally face



In your group: share these and agree on the three most common



Put these on a flipchart

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AFTERNOON LEARNING CAFÉ DISCUSSIONS

The purpose of the afternoon session is to provide an opportunity to explore the resources, artifacts and protocols that have been collected during the Fellowship

Please add in any resources you have brought

- 🗨️ Begin by sharing the CHALLENGES that you identified this morning
- 📄 Browse the resources and find a resource that you could adapt and use/adapt to meet an identified challenge. Use the list of resources to locate specific artifacts
- 🗨️ Discuss in your group how you could use/adapt the resource
- 🗨️ Contribute to the list of what additional resources would be useful?

For the plenary:

- 🗨️ Present one/the best new idea you have come across today
- 🗨️ Indicate how you might use/adapt this idea in a particular context