Designing learning activity by engaging the authentic and the professional

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Authentic learning: Focus for thinking

- A variety of activities and opportunities
- Realistic expectations of ‘work readiness’
- While there are many stakeholder mutual benefits, curriculum decisions drive WIL
- Learning through authentic experiences needs explicit structure and scaffolding
Focus upon unique learning opportunities

• Engagement with:
  – Professionals (their attributes and attitudes)
  – Professional practice (challenge, successes, variability etc)
  – Culture of the profession (behaviours, artefacts, beliefs, values)
  – ‘Clients’ of the profession

• Differing perspectives (holistic, systemic, competitive etc)
Expectations of learning

• A purpose of exploiting unique learning opportunities
• Integration with course learning
• Demonstration of learning outcomes
• Reporting of learning from different perspectives eg self evaluation, host reports, ‘product’ completion, professional standards
Who are the learners?

- Assumptions
- Reality
- Implications for planning WIL
Scaffolding the learning

• Structured opportunities to
  – Learn through experience
  – Learn from experience (experimentation)
  – Demonstrate learning

• Requires mentoring in authentic practice
  – Co-working, collaboration
  – Design, implementation and evaluation
  – Reflection on learning with mentors
How does the learner experience the workplace?
How does the learner experience the workplace?
How does the learner experience the workplace?
How does the learner experience the virtual workplace?
How does the learner experience the virtual workplace?
How does the learner experience the virtual workplace?
How does the learner experience interacting with professionals?
How does the learner experience interacting with professionals?
Over to you ...

• What do you do to find out about your students’ prior conceptions of work/professionalism?
• What do you do to facilitate their learning?
• What do you do to help them reflect on their learning?
• What do you do to assess their learning?