

Confused about scholarship and ECDP? (us too!) A possible solution!

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Development of a Learning Community to support scholarship and ECDP

What is a Learning Community?

- A group of peers who come together to share their judgements and uncertainties about an area of practice and share ideas or experiences to **collectively support and improve each others progression.**
- A learning community has the potential to bring together motivated staff with a range of experiences and skills to work together for a common goal.



Cox, M.D. 2004. Introduction to faculty learning communities. *New Directions for Teaching and Learning* 97: 523.

Jane MacKenzie , Sheena Bell , Jason Bohan , Andrea Brown , Joanne Burke , Barbara Cogdell , Susan Jamieson , Julie McAdam , Robert McKerlie , Lorna Morrow , Beth Paschke , Paul Rea & Anne Tierney (2010) From anxiety to empowerment: a Learning Community of University Teachers, *Teaching in Higher Education*, 15:3, 273-284

AIMS

- Creation of a learning community
- Support scholarship and progression
- Provide practical support for scholarship projects
- Empower ECDP participants with peer support and mentorship
- Produce outputs on the scholarship of the LC, and the ECDP

FUTURE

- Establish a brand new community?

STRUCTURE

- 2 retreat days (start and end)
- Monthly meetings (over 12 months)
- Cross institution meet-up

OUTCOMES

- Publish and disseminate scholarship –both on an individual basis and from the LC as a whole
- Production of recommendations in how to support LT staff on ECDP
- Support staff development and empowerment

OUTPUTS (SO FAR!)

- 7 individual scholarship projects
- 3 collaborative scholarship projects
- 4 poster presentations accepted
- 6 oral presentations accepted



Learning communities move you from anxiety to empowerment - I'm hoping that happens for me



I feel under pressure to work towards promotion criteria, without feeling that I have any real support to get there, and conflicting information on what is expected

Questions?



I felt a strong sense of optimism which I hope we can sustain for the year to support each other and enable our scholarship

