

Developing successful feedback practice in HDR supervision across cultures

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This showcase presentation (60 minutes) reports on the OLT-funded project 'Giving and Receiving Written Feedback in HDR Supervision: Enhancing Supervisors' and Candidates' Skills in a Cross-Cultural Context'. This interactive presentation is of particular interest for *academic developers* who design and run academic and staff development courses for HDR students and supervisors. Our project extends an earlier ALTC funded project (CG7-507) that developed and evaluated resources to enhance supervisors' skills in a cross-cultural context by focusing on aspects of giving and receiving feedback in cross-cultural HDR supervision. Feedback lies at the heart of any learning experience, and giving and receiving feedback is an important and integral part of postgraduate supervision practice. However, its complexity is not always recognized and the practice not discussed by candidates and supervisors. Students tend to be concerned by a lack of clear directions, while supervisors tend to complain about the lack of take-up of feedback. Often, cross-cultural differences between supervisors and candidates can add to such mismatches. This showcase presentation will report on and evaluate four interactive workshops that we conducted in the Australian Capital Territory during the first half of 2013. Drawing on recent research in the field we developed these workshops for supervisors and candidates as a place to think about giving, receiving and responding to feedback, and to find out what works best for them. In this showcase presentation we will share and discuss our workshop materials with academic developers, thus allowing for effective dissemination of our experience and materials.