



Extending the scope of practice

Key Words

Videos, partnerships, collaboration, student-centred, LANTITE, practice, academic skills advisors

Abstract

Similar to other educational professionals, Academic Skills Advisors are required to contend with the ongoing changes in technology and incorporate these into their practice (Harasim, 2012). These changes require the development of skills and strategies necessary to use different types of hardware and software, as well as the ability to communicate information using a variety of formats (Beetham, & Sharpe, 2013). The Academic Skills Unit at the Australian Catholic University continually strives to develop an extensive range of literacy and numeracy resources using a variety of formats – such as videos, quizzes, checklists, tip sheets, FAQs – to meet the diverse learning needs of its students. These resources are available via the University's Moodle platform and located on the Academic Skills Unit's Moodle page. As Academic Skills Advisors' access to both hardware and software has increased, the quality of these resources has continued to improve. Accordingly, Advisors have sought creative ways in which to produce high quality resources, such as by developing partnerships with students (Healey, Flint, & Harrington, 2014). This presentation illustrates the unique collaboration that developed between an Academic Skills Advisor and a third year student, and how this led to the creation of authentic and student centred videos. It will examine the video development process used by the Academic Skills Unit prior to this partnership. Then it will review how the collaboration between the Advisor and student influenced this process, informed the Unit's future practice, and provided "genuinely transformative learning experiences for all involved" (Healy et al., 2014, p. 55). Finally, it will discuss how this change in practice led to a request by the Faculty of Education and Arts to create two student led and produced videos, which presented students' perspectives on the 'Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education' [LANTITE] (Australian Council for Educational Research, n.d.).

References

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