

Learning to do Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL): A taster of an online self paced resource

Scholars new to the academy often find it difficult to balance their energies regarding teaching and research. Scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) draws on the synergies between teaching practice and publication and provides a viable scholarly space for reflection, inquiry and publication. This workshop is significant as it provides participants with opportunities to actively engage with an online self-paced resource that scaffolds new scholars ability to engage in SoTL. The workshop specifically addresses the conference theme: Leading SoTL in the Disciplines and/or Across the Institution.

The facilitators are members of the Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia (HERDSA) Executive Committee New Scholars Portfolio and were recipients of HERDSA Seed (2013) and Strategic (2014) grants that funded the design and development of an online website for new scholars, to assist them to engage with SoTL. Each of the facilitators are/have been employed in their respective tertiary institutions as Academic Developers/ Learning and Teaching Advisers, and been responsible for leading professional learning programs relating to SoTL. One of the facilitators is an Associate Editor of HERD journal, and designer of a subject relating to SoTL, in her institution's Graduate Certificate in Learning & Teaching in Higher Education.

By participating in the workshop participants will be able to i) explore the variety of definitions of SoTL; ii) justify the pursuit of SoTL; iii) identify relevant SoTL topics to investigate; iv) explore methodological approaches to undertaking SoTL; and v) critique avenues for SoTL dissemination.

The participants will actively engage in individual, partner and small group learning activities that provide opportunities to explore the online SoTL resource and provide feedback regarding how the resource might be adapted in their own institution to improve learning and teaching in higher education.

The workshop content is informed by Australian and international research relating to SoTL (see for example; Boyer, Healey, Huber, Hutchings, Poole, Shulman, Takayama, & Trigwell).