Introduction

Written reflections can become “mechanistic” and “reductionistic, facilitating mainly superficial” (McIntosh and Webb, 2006, p.1) and inadequate description (deFreitas, 2007, p.340).

Expected Outcomes

The establishment of an active MQ multidisciplinary “think tank”, or ideas centre, on nurturing creative and innovative ways of reflecting, which will cogenerate the:

• audit of ways of reflecting across Macquarie University (especially PACE units of study)
• evaluation of iLearn pilot modules on reflection developed for S1 2012
• development and evaluative piloting of new workshops, for both students and academics, to support dissemination of research and practice on innovative ways of reflecting, and “thinking at the edge” (adapted from Gendlin, 2004)
• launch of a reflections on learning student competition
• identification of resources needed to support generative practice on innovative reflection
• investigation of new national and international research and network links
• exploration of an accessibility framework for reflective practice, and
• realisation of evolving outcomes as they are identified by the ideas centre.

An Integrated Approach

An arts-based approach invites us to “extend beyond the limiting constraints of discursive communication in order to express meanings that would be ineffective ... to ‘say’ in that form what cannot be said in others” (Barone and Eisner, 2012, p.1).

+ Integrated with:
  A Participatory Action Research (PAR) model (after Kemmis and McTaggart, 1988)

+ and
  An ecological approach (after Bronfenbrenner, 1979)

= Integrated theoretical approach

References


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