Quality preparation and supervision for a collaborative WIL experience: Challenges and strategies

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This roundtable discussion will explore a range of WIL preparation and supervision strategies used by both workplaces and universities to maximise student learning outcomes throughout their WIL experiences. The discussion will be informed by recent findings from two national Office for Learning and Teaching WIL projects. In the ‘Assessing the impact of WIL on student work-readiness’ project, supervision clearly emerged as a key component that impacted the quality of the placement and in turn, the student experience. The “Leading WIL: a distributed leadership approach to work integrated learning” project identified the importance of encouraging and recognising expertise in WIL supervision.

Through facilitated group discussions, participants will consider the challenges of WIL preparation and quality supervision and share strategies to ensure WIL experiences provide rich learning opportunities for all stakeholders.

Questions that will be considered include: What does quality WIL preparation and supervision look like? How important is WIL preparation and supervision? How does the quality of WIL preparation and supervision impact student learning outcomes during WIL activities? How do we know? Do university and industry staff have the expertise to undertake strategies for building student capacity through learning in a workplace? How can universities support/mentor industry workplace supervisors?