

Title: **Evaluating Practice: findings from the introduction of a cross school curriculum innovation**

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Abstract:

Session Learning Outcomes

At the end of this workshop delegates will have been provided with opportunities to:

- Analyse the evaluation strategy of a case study
- Explore the theoretical basis of the evaluation strategy
- Relate the ways in which they or their institutions/departments have evaluated the impact of a development on the student learning experience
- Review and revise own evaluation practice

Session Outline

A case study will be used to promote discussion, participants will be invited to share their experiences of evaluating developments. The benefits and difficulties associated with different evaluation methods will be discussed. A short whole group discussion will be facilitated about the relationship between research and evaluation.

Session Activities and Approximate Timings

- Introduction: Brief overview and context to the development of the Transferable, Graduate and Employability Module Area in the School of Health and Social Sciences and how it was embedded across the academic provision of the School. Overview of the theoretical underpinnings of the evaluation strategy (Baume & Baume 1995, Smith 2004, Macdonald & Wisdom (2002) (5 -15 mins)
- Group Work: Exploration of ways in which evaluation of innovative practices have taken place: Group to identify and discuss an innovation known to group member and outline the evaluation strategy. Group to consider the benefits and difficulties associated with the approaches identified. Present discussion on poster and feedback to main group. (20 mins)
- Whole group discussion – Are research and evaluation different beasts or variations on a theme? Exposition of what Smith and Glass (1987) offer as the main differences (10 mins)

References

Baume, D. & Baume, C. (1995) A Strategy for Evaluation in Directions in Staff Development, Brew, A. (Ed) Buckingham: SRHE and OU Press

Macdonald, R. & Wisdom, J. (2002) Academic & educational Development: Research, Academic & Educational Development and Changing practice in Higher Education. London: Kogan Page

Smith, H.J. (2004) The impact of staff development programmes and activities in Enhancing Staff & Educational Development Baume, D & Kahn, P. (Eds) London. Routledge-Falmer

Smith, M.L and Glass G.V (1987) Research and Evaluation in Education and the Social Sciences Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice -Hall.