

PAPER:

***A TOWN LIKE ALICE:
WORK-BASED DEGREES AS SOCIAL, COMMUNITY AND
ORGANISATIONAL RESEARCH***

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Abstract:

The 1999 AVETRA has as its key focus quality and diversity in VET research. This paper contributes to these foci by presenting a qualitative research model. The research model is based on linking different levels of knowledge and experience in a bounded community, Alice Springs.

The purpose of the research is layered. Within the research a number of micro-sites are established within Alice Springs and UWS Nepean. In Alice Springs, individuals and community organisations develop research questions consistent with organisation aims, and focussing on social, community and regional development. The outcomes are also consistent with the learning outcomes of a Graduate Diploma in Social Sciences (Community Studies). At UWS Nepean, research is undertaken consistent with the organisational aim to develop innovative teaching and learning models.

The paper reports on the layers and levels of the research and argues that quality research produces new knowledge in the context of new actions.