Abstract

Professional Practices Online: Renovating past practices or building new ones?

Kaye Schofield, Anne Walsh, Bernice Melville & Deborah Bennett
Research Centre for Vocational Education and Training
University of Technology, Sydney

This paper arises from collaborative research undertaken with leading practitioners of VET online in TAFE SA during 2000. The paper argues that using online technologies to facilitate vocational learning is not simply a matter of updating or refreshing traditional professional practice but rather, that it represents and indeed requires a break with the past and the construction of a new and more complex practice.

This argument is developed by considering four aspects of professional online practice: producing new knowledge about online teaching and learning; new professional roles and practices arising from the use of online methodologies; new forms of workplace learning for VET practitioners working online; and new organisational contexts for online practice.