Engaging Engineers in Employability

A program-level approach to embedding employability

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Step 1: a bite-sized approach to Employability

PLUS (Professional Learning for Undergraduate Students) is a program that aligns development of a student’s employability to the student lifecycle in the broad areas of Explore (transition in), Experience (transition through) and Expand (transition out).

Step 2: Professional Practice and Employability Skills

The School of Engineering and Built Environment introduced the PPES stream to the Bachelor of Engineering. Employability tasks are embedded and integrated throughout the program, with tasks designed to scaffold students’ skills from first to final year. Assessments are drawn from and aligned to the activities and modules in the PLUS program.

Step 3: PebblePad

The introduction of the Personal Learning Platform (PebblePad) at Griffith University provided the platform to adapt extra-curricular employability tasks (in PLUS) to curricular tasks (in the PPES stream). Templates created in PebblePad can be readily adapted for multiple purposes, and can made available to students in a variety of ways. Templates can be combine in multiple ways to create workbooks for students focusing on specific aspects of their employability. The online approach allows students to easily track and record their employability-based learning without duplicating tasks.

Step 4: Creating a learning design

The flexibility of PebblePad allowed us to create a diverse range of purposeful learning and teaching activities appropriate for each employability-based task. To clearly visualise activities undertaken by each stakeholder, a learning design was created for each task. This places the student experience at the centre, and ensures academic and professional staff are aware of each step of the learning process.

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Step 5: Active Engagement and Success

The PLUS + PPES + PebblePad + Learning Design approach to employability has resulted – in engagement of engineers (both staff and students) in employability-based learning.

18+ Academics Engaged in actively teaching and assessing employability
1000+ Students actively engaged in employability-based learning activity and assessment
9+ courses (subjects) featuring an assessed employability task within the B Engineering across all disciplines.

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