**Conference submission: Lecturer as Employer: busting the myths**

A high proportion of UWL lecturers have acted, and continue to practice as employers. Conducting job interviews, line-managing staff, leading teams and negotiating are experiences lecturers bring from professional practice in areas where their students will be seeking employment.

How can lecturers' experience as employers be transferred to higher education teaching and curriculums? And what transferable skills in our students do we aim to foster as a result of our 'coal-face' working?

This presentation discusses three student interviewer-interviewee exercises, based on lecturer workplace experiences and 'active learning' principles. The exercises do not require lecturers to have experience as an employer, but they are based on workplace observations.

To set the scene, ‘lecturer as employer’ experiences will be discussed and questions of maintaining professional registration, accreditation and networking will be considered, from a ‘communities of practice’ perspective.

The myth of the remote employer, distanced from an academic ivory tower, will be considered. An example of a contentious debate within employers’ understanding of their needs, linked to changing work environments, is described. The types of professions where there is overlap between lecturers and lectures as employers, will be touched on.

We will conclude with a reflection on transferable skills and curriculum planning more broadly, and finish on a note about employing students on research projects.

The presenter’s professional and management background is from within NHS and local authority public health, but the format will be general, raising issues for all disciplines.

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