

WELCOME TO THE IEA CONFERENCE 2019 EDUCATING FOR THE FUTURE



ASSESSING COMPLEX COMPETENCIES

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Directions for assessment, recognition and warranting of learning in the era of general capabilities and complex competencies

Sandra Milligan Assessment Research Centre University of Melbourne March, 2019



Contemporary curriculum narrative

$= \sum (K_{MRR} + K_{Depth} + Skills_{GenCaps} + Skills_{MetaCog} + KnowHow + AVB)$



- 1. Knowledge: recitation, rote learning and recall
- 2. Knowledge: cognitive load and depth
- 3. Skills: general capabilities or 21st C skills
- 4. Skills: metacognitive: knowing how to learn, self regulation, life long learning skills
- 5. AVB: attitudes, values beliefs.
- 6. Know-how: being able to DO something

1. General capabilities and complex competencies are embedded in our curriculum aspiration, and are here to stay.



Not there yet

Teaching repertoire

- Project based
- Inquiry based
- Collaborative learning
- Peer learning
- Ecosystems
- Teacher as coach
- Work-place based learning
- Internships

2. Teaching GC and CC demands much of teachers and school leaders: not there yet.





Assessment as lever

3. **"Unless assessed, it won't be learned....**

Corollary: Good assessment is a great lever for change...

if assessed, it will be learned."





The narrative for assessment as lever

Assessment and recognition off complex competencies

...a process of gathering evidence about a student (what learners say, do, make or write) in a valued area of learning to support a judgment about the position of a learner on a scale of competence from less expert to more expert showing what they know and can do and what they need to learn next with a sufficient degree of confidence to support action for learning and teaching and allow recognition and reporting of the level of learner attainment that people trust







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How to recognize learning

5. Micro-credentials add to the narrative and have promise for managing GC and CC

Give credit where credit is due.





Micro-credentialing

• An Ecosystem of stakeholders

- A User of the credentials
- An Earner group (learner group)
- An Assessor/provider
- An Issuer/warrantor
- Other stakeholders

• The micro-credential object

• a simple graphical image



• evidentiary base for each learner: portfolios, videos, essays, and so on

• Supporting requirements



- Competency definition, exemplars, standards, criteria
- Management of evidence collection/ assessments from multiple assessors/sources: tools, forms, processes
- Moderation, calibration, synthesis, validation
- Issuance of credentials



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Smart technology

Necessary for teacher sanity: to support learning differentiation; management of progressions and rubrics; management of evidence from peers, self and expert judgment and feedback, tests; digital credentialing; machine marking and machine assisted marking; automated customised feedback 6. Smart technology is a necessary prerequisite



SMART TECHNOLOGY



Approaches to organising

- Mobilise the co-curriculum
 - Leadership programs
 - Clubs
- Supplement/bypass existing programs
 - Devise other options (UniMelb)
 - Research Projects in the VCE/IB/SACE; Singapore
- Integrate into current programs and reform teaching
 - e,g. VCAA formative assessment approach
 - KSA CBE project Yr 4 Science
- Re-conceptualise the organisation of learning
 - Big Picture Education

7. There are different degrees of ambition for change reflected in current approaches to GC/CC



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ARTS	ENGLISH	LANGUAGES	BUSINESS STUDIES	HUMANITIES	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	MATHEMATICS	PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Studio Arts	English	Chinese SL/SLA	Accounting	Geography	Biology	Further Mathematics	Physical Education
Visual Communication Design	ENGLISH/EAL	French	Business Management	Year 12 Global Politics	Chemistry	Mathematical Methods CAS	
Theatre Arts	Literature	German	Economics	Year 12 History of Revolutions	Physics	Specialist Mathematics	
Music Performance		Japanese SL	Legal Studies	Year 11 20th Century History	Agriculture & Horticulture		
Music Investigation				Psychology	Product Design Technology (Materials & Textiles)	FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OFFERED AT GGS, PLEASE ORDINATOR - MR ANDREW	CONTACT THE VCE CO-





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Need new systems

8. Current senior secondary certification, and subsequent selection and recruitment systems are becoming frayed

Schools and other organisations are moving

- not supported by formal structures
- market driven
- developing in ways that may exacerbate inequality
- in ways that may not be comparable and trusted



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The idea of a learner profile for a 15-19 year olds

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CFFB Code: 361262 12456 County Line Road, P.O. Box 8002 Gates Mills, Ohio 44040-8002 (440) 423-2916, fax (440) 423-2994

- Integrity and Ethical Decision-Making a. Sustain an empathetic and compassionate outlook
 - b: Foster Integrity, honesty, fairness and
 - c. Exhibit moral courage in confronting unjust situations d. Act responsibly, with the interests
 - and well-being of the larger community in mind
 - e. Develop a fundamental
 - understanding of emerging ethical Issues and dilemmas regarding new
 - vedia and technologies f. Make reasoned and ethical decisions
 - in response to complex problems

Habits of Mind

- a. Conscientious: h Creativity
- c. Love of Learning/Curiosity
- d. Resilience
- e. Persistence f, Self-Efficacy
- g. Stress Managemen h. Time Management
- address global issues. g. Learn from, and work collaboratively with, individuals from diverse cultures, religions, and lifestyles in a spirit of utual respect and open dialogue
- h. Leverage social and cultural differences to create new ideas and achieve success

Adaptability, Initiative, and Risk-Taking a. Develop flexibility, agility, and

Digital and Quantitative Literacy:

technologies

Global Perspective

a. Understand, use, and apply digital

b. Create digital knowledge and media c. Use multimedia resources to communicate ideas effectively in a

nanotechnology, and biotechnology

a. Develop open-mindedness, particularly

d. Use technology to connect with people

Develop social and intellectual skills to navigate effectively across cultures

f. Use 21st century skills to understand and

b. Understand non-western history,

politics, religion and culture c. Develop facility with one or more

International languages

and events globally

regarding the values, traditions of others

- adaptability b. Bring a sense of courage to unfamiliar situations c. Explore and experiment d. Work effectively in a climate of ambiguity and changing priorities e. View failure as an opportunity to learn, and acknowledge that innovation involves small successes and frequent
 - mistakes f. Cultivate an independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas, and strategies g. Develop entrepreneurial literacy

SIGNATURE OF SCHOOL OFFICIAL

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variety of forms d. Master and use higher-level d. Formulate meaningful questions e. Analyze and create ideas and mathematics f. Use trial and error; devise and test e. Understand traditional and emerging topics in math, science, and technology, environmental sciences, robotics, fractals, cellular automata, h. Develop cross-disciplinary

knowledge and perspectives 1. Engage in sustained reasoning nthesize and adapt k. Solve new problems that don't have rule-based solutions I. Use knowledge and creativity to solve

complex "real-world" problem: 2 Complex Communication-

Analytical and Creative Thinking

a identify, manage and address complex problems

c. Control information overload

solutions to problems

g. Imagine alternatives

knowledge

h Detect bias and distinguish between

reliable and unsound information

Oral and Written a. Understand and express ideas in two or more languages b. Communicate clearly to diverse audiences c. Listen attentively d. Speak effectively e. Write clearly and concisely-for a A second s

E Leadership and Teamwork:

a. Initiate new ideas b. Lead through influence c. Build trust, resolve conflicts, and provide support for others d. Facilitate group discussions, forge consensus, and negotiate outcomes e. Teach, coach and counsel others f. Enlist help g. Collaborate tasks, manage groups, and delegate responsibilities h. Implement decisions and meet goals

I. Share the credit



Trusted credentials for GC and CC

- Clear curriculum
- Quality progressions, rubrics, exemplars
- Ownership by stakeholders: recruiters, selectors
- Strong evidentiary base
- Shared standards for assessment
- Argued judgement case
- Micro-credentialing and learner profiles for reporting
- Software for management in schools
- Warrantors regulated



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Professional knowhow still developing

- i) Progressions not very 'wise' yet.....
- ii) Not all should be assessed....
- iii) Generalisability and transferability are issues
- iv) Not all GCs are equal



9. We are at the early stages of professional competence.There are limits to reliability



The possible exception to lack of transferability and generaliaability is ...

"More than ever, the sheer magnitude of human knowledge renders its coverage by education an impossibility; rather, the goal of education is better conceived as helping students develop the intellectual tools and learning strategies needed to acquire the knowledge that allows people to think productively about history, science and technology, social phenomena, mathematics, and the arts. Fundamental understanding ... including how to frame and ask meaningful questions about various subject areas, contributes to individuals' more basic understanding of principles of learning that can assist them in becoming self-sustaining, lifelong learners." (Bransford et al., 2000, p. 5)

Bransford, J. D., Brown, J. D., & Cocking, R. R. (2000). *How people learn: Brain, mind, experience, and school: Expanded edition*. Washington DC: National Academy Press. Retrieved from http://www.nap.edu/read/9853/chapter/1

