

# Promoting and fostering higher education students' agency: Goals and practices

Workshop led by Stephen Billett, Griffith University

**TIME:** 9:30am - 1:30pm

**DATE:** Thursday, 10 August 2017

**VENUE:** Room 545, Level 5, Building 34, Edith Cowan University, Joondalup, WA

**CONTACT:** Heather Pate [h.pate@ecu.edu.au](mailto:h.pate@ecu.edu.au) for more information

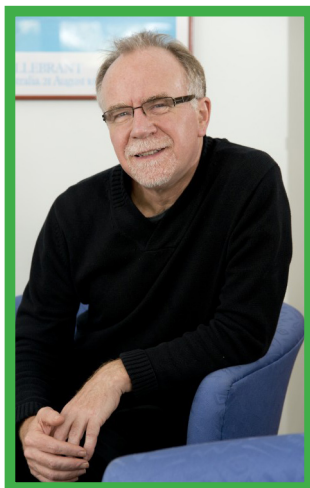
Morning tea and lunch provided

## Abstract

Promoting students to be active, intentional and interdependent learners has been a long-standing goal for higher education. Fostering that capacity is important for: effective study; reconciling experiences across educational, workplace and community settings; transitioning to working life and becoming effective 'lifelong learners'. So, how should we seek to develop further higher students' capacities as agentic learners? Through a structured, but highly participatory process, this workshop seeks to explore and elaborate some means by which such an outcome might be approached. Following a brief presentation offering some ways for considering the goals for and personal and institutional practices within higher education, participants will consider how higher educational environments can be designed, enacted and experienced in ways that are generative of graduates as agentic learners.

The four questions directing this activity are:

1. What are the premises for progressing the educational project of securing agentic learners through higher education?
2. What kinds of activities and interactions within higher education institutions are likely to be generative of enhanced student agency?
3. What kinds of experiences outside of those in educational institutions would be helpful to be generative of this agency?
4. In what ways should students engage to develop and deploy such capacities?



## Professor Stephen Billett

Dr Stephen Billett is Professor of Adult and Vocational Education in the School of Education and Professional Studies at Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia and an Australian Research Council Future Fellow. After a career in garment manufacturing, he has worked as a vocational educator, educational administrator, teacher educator, professional development practitioner and policy developer in the Australian vocational education system and as a teacher and researcher at Griffith University. Since 1992, he has researched learning through and for work and has published widely in fields of learning of occupations, workplace learning, work and conceptual accounts of learning for vocational purposes.

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<http://acen.edu.au/promoting-and-fostering-higher-education-students-agency/>

This event is jointly sponsored by ACEN WA and HERDSA.

Hosted by Edith Cowan University.