Developing students digital skills through placements

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- My research - interviews

- 5 common themes

- No answers, only questions

- Summary

- Questions or comments

Digitally Ready and my research

- Academics, local employers, students

- Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme (UROP)

- Summer Employment Experience & Discovery (SEED)

- Inter-curricular - Silchester dig

Extra-curricular and inter-curricular placements

Interview questions

- What are digital skills? Underpins employability skills

- Preparation/training?

- Development of skills throughout the placement?

- Lack off digital skills?

- Skills executed particularly well?

Common Themes - confidence

- Students are 'digital natives' but lack the confidence to apply their skills

- Supported by employers

- How can we bridge the gap?

- More inter-curricular placements?

- Emotional literacies

Common themes - time

- Duration of placements - too short!

- Academics - more time for training

- Students need time to apply and develop new skills

- Valid contribution - 'nurture the seed'

Common themes - participation

- Placements predominantly filled with 'pro-active' students

- Enhancing skills that students *already* have

- Not acquiring *new* skills

- Not reaching students that would most benefit from skills development

- [Pat's](#) - university's reputation

Common themes - social media

- Employers value students knowledge of social media

- Assuming students have this skills set

- Students most valued; experiencing an office environment, interacting with adults, building confidence.

- A miss-match of values?

Common themes - value

- Students typically valued industrial placements over inter-curricular ones

- University involvement - positive or negative?

- How would I benefit? What does a placement involve?

- Competition - lack of applicants

- Greater promotion - reaching students

Summary - maximising student engagement

- Confidence to apply skills

- Support whilst on placement

- Duration for development

- Participation: getting those that would really benefit into placements

- Social media and skills that are 'taken for granted'

- Promoting the benefits of doing a placement

Thank you for listening - questions or comments

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