

# Applied Research and Innovation in TAFE

## Webinar Series

Friday 11 December 2020 | 12.15 - 1.15 pm



The Victorian TAFE Association's applied research webinars series is a platform to showcase, celebrate and recognise the exceptional applied research and innovation activities taking place across Victoria's TAFE network.

## About the Speaker

**Deb Carr**

**Thinking About Learning - Principal Consultant**

Deb has worked in the VET sector for 11 years starting as a VET teacher at Charles Darwin University. Since then, she has managed her own consultancy designing accredited courses and developing training and assessment resources. She has acted as the Northern Territory Government Director for VET Strategy Policy, led the Learning Unit for the second largest municipality in Melbourne, advised VETASSESS on RPL implementation and managed RTOs.



Deb has just completed her thesis on 'The RPL Candidate – a neglected stakeholder' as part of her Master of Education – Global Learning. Her study included a global literature review and study tour to the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning in Germany and the Thailand Professional Qualification Institute in Bangkok.

Deb's study has been recognised by NCVET. She received a NCVET scholarship to present her research at the No Frills annual conference in 2019, and acted on the NCVET Project Advisory Committee for an exploratory study into how RPL is being used across Australia.

Deb disseminated her research through a 10-part webinar series on 'Doing RPL better'. Champions of good RPL practice utilised this platform to share solutions that improve candidate experience.

RPL continues to be central to Deb's professional activity. She has just finished working with VETASSESS where she designed and developed projects and resources aimed to build RPL capacity abroad.

Deb's broad range of experience and knowledge informs her pragmatic approach to everything 'learning'. Deb is a proud VET product, with Diplomas in Business, Community Services and Training Design and Development. She has personally utilised and conducted RPL. She firmly believes VET is the education sector which best responds to the rapidly changing work world and is Australia's most effective vehicle for social-economic mobility.

## Webinar Topic

The RPL Candidate as a neglected stakeholder

## Overview

Australia's Vocational Education & Training (VET) system includes Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) as a key component of the qualifications process. Australia's training system is in an enviable position in that it meets almost all the UNESCO Guidelines (UNESCO, 2012) for a skills recognition and validation system. RPL of **informal learning** is embedded in the national qualification system (AQF), is a statutory mandatory offer, assessment outcomes are given statutory equivalency to formal learning outcomes, assessment is flexible and quality assured through regulation and lastly, articulation is possible. However, the system lacks the utility of formative assessment and sustainable funding mechanisms, critical actions for a successful national system.

The problem we in Australia face, is RPL execution, practice, implementation! The RPL experience is not a positive one for candidates, nor for many assessors, incidentally!

This webinar explores Deb Carr's research on RPL candidates' experience of the assessment process, and will include:

- an outline of the research method
- the findings
- the application of her research through a 10-part webinar series that addressed the problems with business solutions (delivered May to Sept 2020)
- current research findings – NCVET 'Exploring RPL', and
- further research needs.

## Key audience

The webinar is open to anyone interested in applied research and innovation. A knowledge and appreciation of RPL will help understand the significance of the study.

## How to register?

[Click here to register](#) or visit

<https://www.ivvy.com.au/event/R20162/>

Registrations close Thursday 10 December.

## Cost

Attendance is **FREE**.

## Enquiries

For more information on this webinar, contact the VTA.

Contact: Anna Bejanoff, phone 03 9639 8100 or [abejanoff@vta.vic.edu.au](mailto:abejanoff@vta.vic.edu.au)

For technical issues relating to the webinar, please contact VET Development Centre on 1300 917 150