eWIL Pilot – online workplace learning projects

Background and overview

The Innovative Research Universities (IRU) group is collaborating with government agencies to scope the potential for students to participate in real projects as part of their work integrated learning at university.

This pilot project will see students working on live and real eWIL (e -Work Integrated Learning) projects across four government departments:

- Department of Defence
- Department of Finance
- Department of Parliamentary Services
- Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

The students will participate in the projects off-site using an online 'virtual workplace'. Utilising virtual workplaces in this way will provide opportunities for remote and equity groups to take part in future eWil projects.

The government departments and universities will provide ongoing feedback into the projects to allow them to be adjusted and further honed as appropriate.

The launch timing of each project will vary depending on academic course requirements.

The eWIL project is modelled on the US Government's Virtual Student Federal Service (VSFS), which is discussed in the IRU's Reimagining Work Integrated Learning Webinar Series – video six.

Benefits and outcomes of the eWIL project

- More WIL opportunities for IRU students.
- Innovative model of WIL.
- Improved accessibility to WIL for remote students & other equity groups.
- Point of distinction as leaders of the initiative for Australian higher education.

Further information

If you would like more information about this eWIL pilot, please contact:

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eWIL pilot student projects

Project	Partners	Project Description
Social learning platforms in government	• Department of Defence • Flinders University	The project focuses on the security, architecture and risks of social learning. Research will be conducted into other global government and/or organisations' implementation of a social learning platform similar in nature to Yammer. Case studies or insights into how these organisations use social learning and corporate social media technology to embed a learning culture is examined.
Women in finance leadership roles	• Department of Finance • Griffith University	Department of Finance's preferred project/research piece is on women in leadership roles within the finance and accounting professions. Key themes and best practice examples are examined across a range of sectors. Possible actions will be recommended that could be implemented within the Australian Public Service to support improvement in this area.
Discovery and process automation	• Department of Parliamentary Services • La Trobe University	The Parliamentary Library project proposes to investigate opportunities for increased discovery and process automation. This project will seek to deliver enhanced capabilities for collection discovery and process efficiencies. The project outputs will be a report into what collection material would be the best candidate for any automated description approaches.
Procurement in Northern Australia	• NT Dept Trade, Business and Innovation • Charles Darwin University	Master of Public Policy students are engaged in a review of public procurement as it relates to regional development in Northern Australia. NT Department of Trade, Business and Innovation and Charles Darwin University are jointly developing project scope and outcomes as relevant to the student skillset and course requirements.