

SNAPSHOT

OPEN JOURNAL PROJECT

INTRODUCTION

SNAPSHOT ONLINE JOURNAL IS AN **OPEN EDUCATION RESOURCE** DEVELOPED TO SHOWCASE STUDENT ASSESSMENT. IT PROVIDES A VEHICLE FOR ACADEMIC STAFF IN THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES AT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY TO RETHINK THEIR ASSESSMENT INTO **AUTHENTIC AND INTERACTIVE PRACTICE**.



THE ISSUES

What do we do? In their undergraduate degree, students write up to 90 000 words which are only ever seen by their tutor.

How can we get academic staff to re-evaluate assessment practice?

How can we create more educationally purposeful activities to promote engagement (1)?

What can Open Education Practice offer to facilitate authentic and collaborative assessment and to reach those who are otherwise excluded from traditional education (2)?

How do we make explicit the nature of undergraduate assessment for potential students from non-traditional backgrounds (3)?

Can authentic assessment tasks increase the quality of assessment?

Can an open resource better connect students with the university (4)?

1.Stebleton, M., Jensen, M. & Peter, G.. (2010). Enhancing Student Engagement in a Multidisciplinary First-year Experience Course, *Collage Teaching Methods & Styles Journal*, 6 (1), pp. 1-6. 2. Bossu, C., Bull, D., and Brown, M. (2012). Opening up Down Under: the role of open educational resources in promoting social inclusion in Australia, *Distance Education*, 33 (2), pp. 151-164. 3.Warren, D. (2002). Curriculum Design in a Context of Widening Participation in Higher Education, *Arts and Humanities in Higher Education*, 1 (1). pp 85-89 4.Devlin, M., O'Shea, H. (2012). Effective University teaching: views of Australian University students from low socio-economic backgrounds, *Teaching in HigherEducation*, 17 (5), pp. 385-397.

OPEN

Open access journal
Open Journal Software
Open to students of different levels, capabilities and background, not just high-achieving students, to participate in research and publication processes.

ASSESSMENT

The journal showcases essays, short writing pieces and group reports, creative writing and film reviews with a YouTube channel for multimedia assignments. Individual issues of the journal may focus on a theme, subject or course. Through the journal we encourage staff to build in more formative feedback and peer review in the selection process.

"I am thankful for the open format that the journal offers both educators and students in breaking new ground for assessment. The pieces I have chosen for subsequent publication in the journal are from students who would easily have slipped under the radar in a conventional assessment situation."

Sofia Ahlberg
Subject Coordinator - American Literature

Authors: Donna Bisset [Online Learning Designer]
Ruth Jelley [Editorial Adviser]
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