From: Rita Roop [mailto:rita\_roop@rp.sg] On Behalf Of Symposium

Sent: Monday, 23 February 2009 11:39 AM

**To:** Megan Kek **Cc:** Symposium

Subject: 2nd International PBL symposium, 10 - 12 June 2009



9 Woodlands Avenue 9 Singapore 738964 Tel: (65) 65103016 Fax: (65) 64151310 Website: www.rp.sg

23 Feb 2009

ACCEPTANCE OF SUMMARY PAPER 2<sup>nd</sup> International PBL Symposium 10 – 12 June 2009, Singapore

Dear Dr Megan Kek

I am pleased to inform that your summary paper entitled, "TO LEARN DEEPLY OR NOT TO LEARN DEEPLY: EXPLORING FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE LEARNING APPROACHES AND SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING IN A PBL CONTEXT AT A MALAYSIAN PRIVATE UNIVERSITY<sup>99</sup> has been accepted for presentation at the 2nd International PBL symposium to be held in Singapore from 10 – 12 June 2009.

The comments from the reviewers are attached for your reference. Please advise if you will be making any changes in view of the reviewers comments by **27 Feb 2009**. If we do not hear from you by then, we will proceed with using the current version.

We intend to publish all summary papers into a proceedings that will be distributed at the symposium. We are however, only publishing papers of presenters whose registration fees have reached us by end **15 April 2009**. Kindly ensure that your registration fees reach us by then so that we can confirm your registration at the symposium.

Do log in with your login id and password onto the MySymposium Portal to indicate mode of payment and to make payment of fees. Details on modes of payment is available on the web at: http://www.rp.sg/symposium/2009/registrationform.asp.

We would like to encourage you to make arrangements for travel and accommodation early. To enjoy special accommodation rates for the official symposium hotels, please visit <a href="http://www.rp.sg/symposium/2009/accommodation.asp">http://www.rp.sg/symposium/2009/accommodation.asp</a>.

Please visit the symposium website at <a href="https://www.rp.sg/symposium">www.rp.sg/symposium</a> for updates. We look forward to meeting you at the symposium.

With warm wishes

Rita Roop Organising Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> International PBL Symposium www.rp.sg/symposium

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2<sup>nd</sup> International PBL Symposium 10 – 12 June 2009 Republic Polytechnic Singapore Review of summary papers

Paper title/Paper code: MK012
PAPER STATUS: ACCEPT

TO LEARN DEEPLY OR NOT TO LEARN DEEPLY: EXPLORING FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE LEARNING APPROACHES AND SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING IN A PBL CONTEXT AT A MALAYSIAN PRIVATE UNIVERSITY

#### **Comments from reviewer 1:**

A very interesting study that is helpful in enabling understanding of the complexity in learning via profiling the deep and surface learners in terms of influences.

Not clear, however, from the summary of findings the relationship between deep/surface learning or learners' profiles with Self directed learning. Is self-directed learning the outcome that is being referred to? It is also necessary to help the reader make connections between the findings and the implications, as the latter now appears to stand alone.

How many items were in the survey for each student and teacher?

I'm wondering if the author has specific intentions for entitling the paper as it is, for "to learning deeply or not." reflects choice, while "factors that influence" indicates observations as a result of direct or indirect choices on the part of the learners.

#### **Comments from reviewer 2:**

The paper is well written and well structured and should provoke worthwhile discussion amongst symposium participants.

What Are We Learning About Learning?

2<sup>nd</sup> International Problem-based Learning Symposium 2009

10 – 12 June 2009

Republic Polytechnic, Singapore

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## **Centre for Educational Development**

The Centre for Educational Development (CED) at the Republic Polytechnic (RP) plays a supportive role in ensuring staff are equipped with the most relevant and effective teaching practices so that students can maximize their individual potential to learn and develop.

CED comprises a dedicated team of educators from various disciplines and teaching backgrounds who have come together to help plan the framework for the Problem-based Learning experience at RP.

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#### WELCOME MESSAGE

On behalf of the organizing committee I would like to welcome you to the Republic Polytechnic's 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Problem-based Learning.

It is not a trivial matter to attend an International Symposium on education in a climate where there are deep concerns about the physical and financial health of our communities and countries. We are appreciative that you could come and value your willingness to spend your time, money and talents with us to reflect upon, what can too often be taken for granted, and that is the idea of "learning".

The interest and commitment to Problem-based Learning at the Republic Polytechnic is driven by our own fascination with learning. This Symposium is a wonderful opportunity for us to explore what learning entails (and what it does not), to consider own experiences as educators with learning, and the effect different philosophies and approaches to teaching have upon how educators, students, governments and the wider community conceive and measure learning.

We are so pleased to have three outstanding keynote speakers and numerous invited and specially selected speakers and workshop and poster presenters who are willing to help us all explore the idea of learning. I know they will both illuminate and challenge us. I would like thank all those presenting for their thoughtful preparation and my hope is that they get back from the Symposium as much, if not more, than they have prepared.

Such events do not happen without the tremendous energy and dedication of many people. We are indebted to the many people who have helped to make this Symposium possible. The Symposium is essentially the result of the whole Republic Polytechnic community's commitment to quality education and an ongoing willingness to learn and share. I would like to thank our Principal and CEO, Mr Yeo Li Pheow, for his generous patronage, and the Deputy Principals, Mr Eden Liew and Dr W.A.M. Alwis, and all the directors of both the academic schools and centres and administrative units for their strong support. I would like to especially thank Rita Roop, who chaired the organising committee, for her untiring leadership, attention to detail and unfaltering patience. She has been very ably supported by the professionalism, creativity and enthusiasm of the entire staff of the Centre for Educational Development.

We have tried to plan a conference that will be both educatively and gastronomically filling, and we hope that you will be able to agree (in the past tense) that it was. Thank you for coming and I hope over the next three days you enjoy "learning about learning"!

Glen O'Grady Director, Centre for Educational Development Convenor, 2<sup>nd</sup> International PBL Symposium 2009

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