Website context: ePioneers home → Outcomes

Doctoral supervision at a distance

ePioneers: Peter Gates & Linda Ellison

Mentor: Do Coyle

The campus in Malaysia recruits full-time students for whom most of the doctoral expertise and supervision is based in the UK. We had a need to develop strategies to exploit electronic means of communicating to support these students in their training and supervision. Supervision for doctoral level work needs to be sustained and high level – typically not the sort of communication usually obtained through electronic means.

Quick Gains:
- The ability to make visual contact to build relationships
- Enabling supervisory teams to genuinely engage with the student as a team via the Teaching and Learning Observatory (TLO), rather than one-to-one electronic communications taking place.

Contribution to School/wider University e-learning development:
- Development of resources for our part-time students, but also greater support to the small but growing number of overseas full time students.
- The development of more flexible ways of dealing with research supervision. The project also helped us to understand how to build similar processes into work with the student and co-supervisor in the NMDP (both while the student is in the UK-based stages and in the Malaysian 'home' university stages) although sometimes without the benefit of a TLO.
- The provision of support for researching the supervisory/doctoral experience, allowing us to remain at the forefront of this development. Pre-existing expertise in the EdD Teacher Education was exploited.

++ This document is intended to be read as part of the ePioneers website ++
ePioneers: Taking ownership of e-learning
www.nottingham.ac.uk/epioneers/