



WORKSHOP

Improving Student Practicums

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By engaging with practice, engineering students develop capabilities, self-efficacy, motivation, and professional identity, among other outcomes. Many students engage with practice by completing work experience, also known as a practicum. However, availability and quality of practicums vary. Engineers Australia leads a working group of senior engineers, university staff and students to improve the availability and quality of students' engagement with practice. To understand students' recent experiences, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, we surveyed stakeholders.

WORKSHOP MODE

Hybrid mode during Perth business hours

OVERVIEW OF WORKSHOP

Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to developing engineering capability through practicums will be explored and addressed. Participants will contribute to [research](#).

ACTIVITIES

Preliminary results of a survey of Australian engineering students and graduates about their practicums will be presented. In facilitated discussions, workshop participants will explore explanations for the survey results, and identify recommendations.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Engineers, university staff, and engineering students from around the globe are welcome.

OUTCOMES

Participants will understand the current experience of practicums for students of Australian universities, and contribute to recommendations to enhance engineering capability development.

KEYWORDS

engineering education, employability, work integrated learning, placements

PRESENTERS' BACKGROUNDS

The facilitators are senior managers of Engineers Australia, senior engineers who are office-bearers of Engineers Australia, engineering academics, and work integrated learning practitioners in universities, including leading researchers in work integrated learning in engineering.