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Paper 85 – Pecha Kucha

We write to work out what we think: Embedding “writing workouts” in researching

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Abstract

Knowing “how to write” as a researcher is no more about opening up a “how to write” book and reading it while at the computer than knowing “how to cook” is about opening up a processed food package and popping it into the microwave. Both do require developing an understanding of a process that begins with a number of individual, distinct elements and ends with a fusion worthy of dipping into.

Knowing “how to respond” as a researcher, peer or supervisor is no more about applying rules of rhetoric and disciplinary publishing to the work we read than knowing “how to coach rugby” is about applying principles from International Rugby Coaching and Gareth Thomas’ play to a newly formed community team. Both do require knowing some basic rules, understanding multiple and intersecting contexts, developing habits of confidence and resilience through practice, and linking micro, mezzo and macro components together in order to building a skilled individual within a strong collaborative team.

This Pecha Kucha will venture to suggest ways of building individually appropriate “working out what we think” workouts into the research writing and revision process – from the initial rush of ideas to the cultivating of feedback to the culmination of writing up. The presentation notes that researchers – postgraduates and advisors alike – need to practice in order to gain comfort and flourish in our roles as creative knowledge producers, collaborative meaning makers.