



Emerging Leader Program: Building Student Employability and Creating Future-Ready Learners

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To compete effectively in today's competitive labour market, students need to be able to develop and articulate their value proposition to prospective employers in confident and compelling ways in order to promote a lasting impact. Employers want to gain insight into the combined experiences of students, gained through activities undertaken alongside and complementing studies, which demonstrate commitment, passion and cultural fit.

To support students in building the skills necessary to market themselves effectively, and to recognise and express their "value add" attained through participating in activities that enhance employability and demonstrate career adaptability, Swinburne University of Technology has developed the Emerging Leader Program. Strategies for empowering students to present their acquired employability skills, using the STAR technique, form an integral aspect of the program. It also presents the opportunity for students to earn micro-credentials, and have them reflected on their academic transcripts.

Further, in line with career development initiatives to promote early interventions in career readiness, and to support the transition from secondary to tertiary education, the Early Leader Program was piloted in 2017. This extension program provides an introduction to building the skills in high school years to catalogue and articulate learning experiences to enhance future employability.

The presentation will outline the application of these programs, including their implementation within curriculum to enhance student involvement. Participants will have the opportunity to view mechanisms for recording student submissions. The student experience, benefits of participation, and perceived outcomes will be presented.