



Graduate Employability 2.0 Learning to Connect

An Australian National Senior Teaching Fellowship
Professor Ruth Bridgstock



Australian Government
**Department of Education,
Skills and Employment**

What is Graduate Employability 2.0?

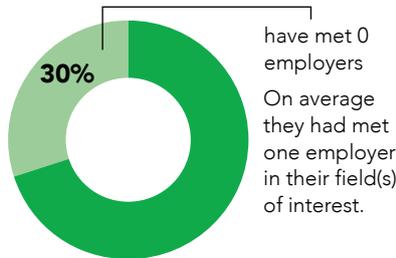
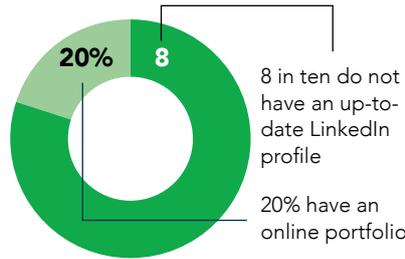
GE2.0, the connected approach to graduate employability, is concerned with the social and relational dimensions of learning, work and career. The ability to make, grow and strengthen professional connections, and interact and work with them effectively and strategically, has long been recognised as essential to lifelong employability. The potential impact of social connections on career and life is even greater now because of digital networks and social media.

In order to foster learners' connectedness capabilities, higher education institutions should also seek to become more connected, thus strengthening programmatic relevance and authenticity. They can do this through teaching collaborations and partnerships, online networks, and 'silobusting' within the institution.

How connected are our students?

(Survey of n=192 2nd and 3rd year undergraduates)

Students are not well connected into professional networks.



How connected are our universities?

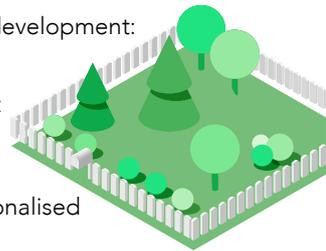
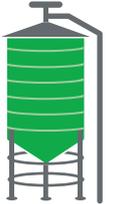
Two key metaphors of higher education from 71 interviews:

The university as a series of silos

The university as a walled garden

Opportunities for development:

- Scaleability
- Risk management
- Stakeholder engagement
- Responsive, personalised engagement
- Resourcing



Outputs

The GE2.0 connectedness learning model

Educators toolkit for program analysis and action planning

Cases of exemplary educational practice

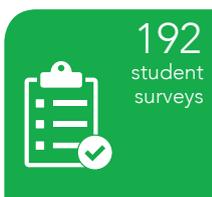
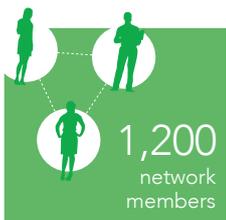
A range of guides and fact sheets

More than 20 published scholarly outputs

An edited collection of case studies 'Higher Education & the Future of Graduate Employability' (Edward Elgar)



Sector-wide engagement and impact



The fellowship resources are designed to provide theoretically and empirically informed practical tools to foster connectedness learning in higher education. They develop individual capabilities, learning and teaching approaches, and institutional enabling strategies.



Access the resources and become part of the network at: www.graduateemployability2-0.com

In the first two months after phase 3:

8 in 10 participants put connectedness learning into action



70% shared the connectedness learning approach with colleagues