Making research skills explicit in the curriculum

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**This workshop will address** how to make skills explicit in coursework curricula using the Research Skill Development (RSD) framework (Willison & O'Regan, 2006). It will be addressed by unpacking, explaining and exploring the RSD through active participation, scaffolded guided group work activities and discussion. The workshop will promote best-practice principles and methods between academics, librarians and learning skills advisers to applying RSD informed approaches for student learning using sustainable grass root strategies. Case studies of collaborative approaches and applications of RSD implementation from Monash University will provide real life examples of important undergraduate skills development.

**It will be addressed by:**

- Unpacking the RSD Facets of Inquiry
- Unpacking the RSD Levels of Autonomy
- Exploring the RSD framework to identify Research skills
- Skills Matching to make skills explicit activity
- Demonstrating how the RSD aligns with AQF

The RSD framework is now a strategic priority that underpins *Monash University’s Education Strategy 2011-2015*. Monash University library staff are engaging in rich collaborative partnerships with academics to lead the dissemination, adoption and implementation of the RSD framework across Monash University.

**Leanne McCann** is an innovative and experienced educator with significant program leadership in a range of dual sector educational settings. As Learning Skills Manager, Leanne leads the team of learning skills advisers in the unique model of research and learning in libraries to work in partnership with discipline academics across Australian, Malaysian and South African campuses. Leanne led the Monash University English Language Skills working party to research, map, analyse and report on English Language skills development across the curricula. Leanne has presented and facilitated workshops at both national and international universities to design curricula informed by the RSD. Leanne has been member of two OLT research projects and made significant contributions to higher education as a member of university wide and external fora and working to effect in-curricula skills development, now in the Monash Education Strategic Plan 2011-2015. Recipient of: the Vice Chancellors’ Award for Programs that Enhance Learning, Special Commendation 2011 and Deans Award, Business and Economics, Excellence in Teaching, 2009.

**Lyn Torres**, Information Research Skills Manager, Monash University is a key implementer and initiated the use of the RSD for the in-curricula development of students’ research skills through library-faculty partnerships. Lyn’s interest is the educative contribution of libraries for
enhancing student learning through research skill acquisition. She has collaborated with academic colleagues on two OLT funded RSD projects at Monash since 2009. Lyn has influenced the invigoration of the skills agenda at Monash University by encouraging a collaborative approach between professional and academic staff leading to educational policy endorsement for the RSD. Lyn has presented at educational conferences; successfully co-designed and implemented a new module for the Graduate Certificate of Academic Practice on using the RSD to inform the skills curriculum, and has been invited by universities nationally and internationally to present and facilitate workshops on integrating RSD informed approaches to make student’s research skills explicit in disciplinary content. Recipient of: Excellence in Learning and Teaching (2011), VC Award for Programs that Enhance Learning, Special Commendation (2012).