

Work in Progress Presentation Reflection

The presentation has allowed me to take the stance of looking back at what has been done (or not done!) so far while also looking to the future and what I hope to achieve. While working on the presentation I had the opportunity to discuss it with Kevin and this was helpful from a number of perspectives.

Although there is a plan in my head and it is outlined in the presentation, actually talking it out and discussing some of the challenges experienced to date is a powerful method of clarification. I have found this to be the case when chatting to some of the other students over a coffee and whilst they have been helpful in their suggestions, Kevin's experience in the area of webinars has provided me with some suggestions for helping trainers who are new to using this technology. Also our discussion has led me to thinking more about how knowledge of the information delivered will be assessed and also the level of effectiveness of the technology as a method to deliver training.

As I mentioned the presentation has been a way to discover what has not been done so far, however again the discussion with Kevin has been a means of reinforcing what has been done. The introduction of the webinar technology is something I am interested and enthusiastic about, Kevin's enthusiasm for the technology is infectious and has led to an increase in my confidence of my ability in the area.

I mentioned in the presentation that one of my challenges is the need to be flexible. My proposal was based on an action research methodology and this has changed now to a case study. On reflection my challenge regarding flexibility has resulted from the perceived control I felt I would have if using the action research approach. Using this approach I felt I would have control over when each cycle was done and the changes that would be agreed for each cycle. The move to a case study on the implementation of the technology means there is no control on what will arise and at this stage I have no idea as to whether I will be able to research both Trainers and Students or if I may only be able to concentrate on one group or case. My realisation now is that regardless of the methodology there is a need to be completely flexible. The nature of research is that the result is unknown until it is

conducted. There is a need to be able to react and if necessary document and amend what will be completed based on what arises during the course of the investigation. Research in this area is limited and Swanborn (2010) suggests when this is the case the researcher can only pose broad what or how questions. However he goes on to argue that having defined the problem the broad question may develop into a series of more precise questions as the research proceeds. This is an exploratory case study and Swanborn (2010) points out that this demands the researcher maintain openness towards aspects that appear during the data collection process. My thoughts now are that flexibility is part and parcel of research and the challenge now is that the research must be completed by a certain date and the findings written up.

Swanborn, P. (2010). *Case Study Research What, Why and How?* London: Sage publications Ltd