Spaces of Learning

The Spaces of Learning is inspired by the work of Dr Helen Bound and Lee Wee Chee from Institute for Adult Learning. Articulated in the research article, "*Teaching and Learning across Boundaries: Work, Classroom and In Between*", the authors advocate making the most of the rich learning opportunities and affordances for learning at and through work.

Learning at and through work offers opportunities that are holistic, meaningful, and within the complexity of the work environment where we use knowledge and skills in integrated ways. The classroom, on the other hand, offers an ideal environment for exploring deeper levels of theory and practice and for reflection on praxis. Thus, it is useful to articulate the teaching and learning opportunities within the different spaces of classroom learning in educational institutions, work and the spaces in between.

The article, "*Teaching and Learning across Boundaries: Work, Classroom and In Between*" took a socio-cultural approach to explore how to leverage these different spaces. It draws on two research studies conducted by the Institute for Adult Learning, Singapore (IAL). One study took a semi-ethnographic approach for data collection involving four case studies. In the second study, practitioner researchers conducted semi-structured interviews in three different organisations focusing on specific sets of skills and knowledge. From the findings of these different studies, the authors developed a simple model to encourage learning that spans classroom, work and in between spaces. Each of these spaces offers opportunities for developing and using pedagogical boundary tools (PBTs) (e.g. questioning, journals, gradual release of responsibility, projects, etc.).

The article concludes with a discussion of the implications of using pedagogical boundary tools for learners, those with a teaching role, human resource personnel and employers. It has been published in SIM University's Teaching and Learning Centre's "Advances in SoTL", a peer reviewed, trans-disciplinary, open-access electronic journal. The full article can be downloaded here - http://tlc.unisim.edu.sg/research/AdvSoTL/pdf/helen_bound.pdf, while the article abstract is outlined below.