

★ Student Career Competence: the contribution of career conversations

Robyn Bailey summarises her 2013 Symposium Paper which presented the findings of seven related pieces of research conducted over the past four years in the Netherlands.



Like NZ, the Netherlands has been encouraging secondary schools and tertiary educators to develop career management competencies in their students alongside the discipline-specific competencies students usually gain. Over the past four years, researchers at two different Dutch universities have been looking at just what does, and what does not, contribute to the development and use of career management competencies. They conclude that the most influential contributor is reflective dialogue that constructs and attributes meaning.

The recent Careers Research Symposium in Christchurch was nourishment for our professional souls. The range of sessions was stimulating but perhaps more so was the opportunity to meet up again with colleagues and friends from our field and to connect with people who were interested to talk with each other about ideas. Perhaps this is testimony to how we as practitioners also relish the opportunity to dialogue and make meaning of our experiences of career development.

★ Robyn Bailey – CDANZ Professional Member, Programme Leader & Senior Lecturer, Career Development, AUT

Reference: Robyn's Symposium paper can be accessed at <http://www.cdanz.org.nz/files/Symposium2013/>