



FACULTY OF  
MEDICINE  
DENTISTRY  
& HEALTH  
SCIENCES

MEDICAL EDUCATION UNIT

# UPCOMING SEMINAR

## LEARNING RESPONSIBILITY ON THE JOB? EXPLORING DOCTORS' TRANSITIONS TO NEW LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.

PROFESSOR MIRIAM ZUKAS

PROFESSOR OF ADULT EDUCATION AND DIRECTOR

LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

27 MAY 2009 AT 1:00 - 2:00 PM

**THIS SEMINAR IS CONCERNED WITH DOCTORS LEARNING RESPONSIBILITY IN THEIR TRANSITION INTO NEW LEVELS OF RESPONSIBILITY SUCH AS THEIR FIRST YEAR OF WORK. IT FOCUSES ON LEARNING AND PERFORMANCE.**

The paper draws on an UK Economic and Social Research Council-funded project which investigated the effects of transitions on doctors' performance using a 'collective' case study approach. The project looks at first year doctors and new specialist trainees, working in elderly medicine. 20 doctors were interviewed twice, approximately 3 months apart and observed during a 'typical' shift. Supplementary interviews with other healthcare professionals (including consultants, ward sisters, pharmacists) were also conducted. The research design involved an iterative process of description, then analysis and finally interpretation and

this seminar will present some of the early findings. The study has illuminated the ways in which workplaces may impede transitions to new levels of responsibility, and the extent to which it may not be possible to prepare doctors fully for appropriate levels of performance. The seminar will argue that existing models of learning which underpin the preparation of doctors for new levels of responsibility are not sufficient and suggest that practice based on a theory of learning cultures would enable smoother transitions and, ultimately, patient care.

Miriam Zukas is Professor of Adult Education and Director of the Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Leeds.

The MEU Seminar series provides an opportunity for participants to interact with local or visiting speakers with special expertise in education for health professionals. An RSVP is required to assist with room preparation and you are invited to bring your lunch if you wish.

Watch for details of upcoming seminars at [www.meu.medicine.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.meu.medicine.unimelb.edu.au).

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**TIME/DATE:**

1:00 - 2:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY 27 MAY 2009

**LOCATION:**

MEU SEMINAR ROOM (N710)  
LEVEL 7, NORTH WING  
MEDICAL BUILDING  
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

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