

UNIVERSITY LEARNING & TEACHING AWARD HOLDERS PROFILE

[Duncan Holt](#), Theatre & Performance Studies, School of Arts & New Media, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Duncan Holt has been in the dance profession for many years and now in academia, he looks at the manner in which intelligence is acquired and expressed with regard to the 'wholeness of persons'. In this sense the body and the mind are inseparably the same entity; to attend only what can be understood in the mind is to address a sub-set of the whole and ignore the body-knowledge that is in all of us. This Innovations in Student Learning funded project, 'Within and Without', considers the nature of what students learn in the complex circumstance of their studies and their experience of the other thinkers that surround them at University. Much of this is not addressed in their programmes of study nor the context of their assessment.

The nature of intelligence according to Ken Robinson (1) is that it is diverse, dynamic and distinct. If this is the case then many of the ways we express intelligence may be outside of the things we address in programmes of study and may not be captured in formal assessment.

In this project a choreographer, seven students and a filmmaker spent three days exploring the richness of their experience of university through their own studio practice, working to achieve a vivid sense of their own signature expression. The outcome was the generation of filmed data that documented traces of their experience and the immediate studio practice. At times this had clearly defined artistic content that was blended with creative conversations; the interaction between art and the everyday. These conversations revealed 'unintended learning outcomes'; not unlike the dinner parties wherein the discussion includes the nature of theatre, dance, art and performance as well as who was 'going out' with whom, the price of online shopping and the economic downturn.

The complex competencies practiced in this project are outside of the task driven processes and constraints of assessment. Instead the participants applied their intelligence to the quality of their lives and direction of their achievements. The project offers a window to the diverse, dynamic and distinctive nature of their intelligence.

1. Robinson, K., www.ted.com/index.php/speakers/sir_ken_robinson.html

Keywords: [intelligence](#), [unintended learning outcomes](#), [body-knowledge](#)