

EMPLOYMENT SKILLS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Jo-Anne Chuck^a, Ian Clark^b

Presenting Authors: Jo-Anne Chuck and Ian Clark (JChuck@westernsydney.edu.au; Ian.Clark@unisa.edu.au)

^aSchool of Science and Health, Western Sydney University, Penrith, NSW 2751

^bExecutive Officer, Australian Council of Environmental Deans and Directors, UniSA, Adelaide, SA 5000

KEYWORDS: Employability, Soft Skills, Environment

ABSTRACT

Graduates entering the workforce in 2020 are expected to meet an extensive range of criteria in addition to the right university qualification and sufficient work experience in a relevant field. They must also be able to demonstrate a range of interpersonal (soft) skills and a number of non-industry-specific skills, which will ensure that they can keep pace with the challenges of a changing economy.

PART 1: 9.00 – 10.15

What do employers want?

Various studies have identified the top skills which are most in-demand for graduate jobs across all sectors. This session will take a closer look at these essential skills and how to get them. Presentations from public and private employers and the professional body as well as for graduates going on to higher degrees will set the scene for the panel discussion in the next session.

PART 2: 10.45 – 11.45

Panel Discussion

Panelists will present their experiences of how to incorporate, value and assess generic transferability and discipline specific skills into the curriculum as well as across the institution.

PART 3: 11.45 – 12.30

Reflection on the role of LTAS

Are they relevant, what is missing, role of Scholarship and Quality assurance processes for environmental degrees?

Proceedings of the Australian Conference on Science and Mathematics Education, The University of Sydney and University of Technology Sydney, 2 - 4 October 2019, page 177, ISBN Number 978-0-9871834-8-4