

Supported reflective learning on peer observation of teaching



What? So what? Now what?

Based on work by Schön, 1987; Gibbs, 1988; Rolfe et al., 2001; Driscoll, 2007, Brookfield 1995

Here are some prompts for your observing and reflecting on a teaching session, using Donald Schön's 3-question approach to reflecting on practice *What? So what? Now what?* **How you use these prompts is up to you but here are some suggestions:**

- Brief notes / bullet point responses during the session
- Structured written reflections after the session
- Self-reflection following a teaching session
- Notes for feedback and informal discussion with teaching colleagues after a session
- Prompts for more general reflection on teaching practice

WHAT prompts (Description of the session)

- What happened in the session? What did the teacher and students do?
- What do I see as the **intended** (learning) outcome/s for this teaching session?
- What do I see as the **actual** outcome/s?
- What caught my attention during the session?

SO WHAT prompts (Analysis of the session)

- What did I learn from observing this session?
- How did I feel during the session? At the end of the session?
- What positive aspects emerge from this session?
- What are some implications for my teaching practice, based on what I have observed?
- What are some implications for others (students / teaching teams / colleagues?)

NOW WHAT prompts (Proposed actions following the session)

- What changes can I make to my own practice after observing this session?
- What help or information do I need to help me 'action' these changes?
- How will I notice and record change/s?

References

- Brookfield, Stephen D. (1995). *Becoming a Critically Reflective Teacher*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass
- Driscoll, J. (2007) *Practising Clinical Supervision: A Reflective Approach*, London, Bailliere Tindall.
- Gibbs G (1988). *Learning by Doing: A guide to teaching and learning methods*. Further Education Unit. Oxford Polytechnic: Oxford.
- Rolfe, G., Freshwater, D., & Jasper, M. 2001. *Critical reflection for nursing and the helping professions: A user's guide*, Palgrave Basingstoke.
- Schön, D. A. (1987). *Educating the reflective practitioner: Toward a new design for teaching and learning in the professions*. Jossey-Bass.