



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Be Here, Be Heard: Creating a Balanced Dynamic in Online Learning Setting

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Be Here, Be Heard : Reshaping Arts

BHBH is a student led project which promotes student voice as an agency to bring positive changes, developments, inclusions and advancements in Arts teaching and learning. It fosters an ongoing and accessible dialogue within the arts community.



Student Voice as a Concept

‘..can be viewed in association with transformative practice, democratic or participatory systems; the promotion of inclusion and diversity or support for student right. (McLeod, 2011)

‘individual and collective perspectives and actions of young people within the context of learning and education that can include, but is not limited to, active or passive participation, knowledge, voting, activism, service, opinions, leadership, and ideas. (Fletcher, 2006: 1)

The concept of student voice not only insinuates giving students the opportunity to communicate ideas and opinions, it also implies students having the power to influence change

What does student voice mean to the students?
Do students think they have a voice?
Does anyone listen to it?

'I THINK UNDERSTANDING IS ONE THING, ACKNOWLEDGING IS ANOTHER, AND THEN WORKING ON IT IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT'

'STUDENT VOICE IS IMPORTANT BUT ONLY SO LONG AS IT IS HEARD, LISTENED TO, RESPONDED TO, AND SEEN TO RESULT IN ACTION AND CHANGE. HENCE THERE ARE CHALLENGES, FIRSTLY STUDENTS EXPRESSING THEIR VOICES, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY WHETHER THOSE EXPRESSIONS RESULT IN ANY OUTCOMES.'

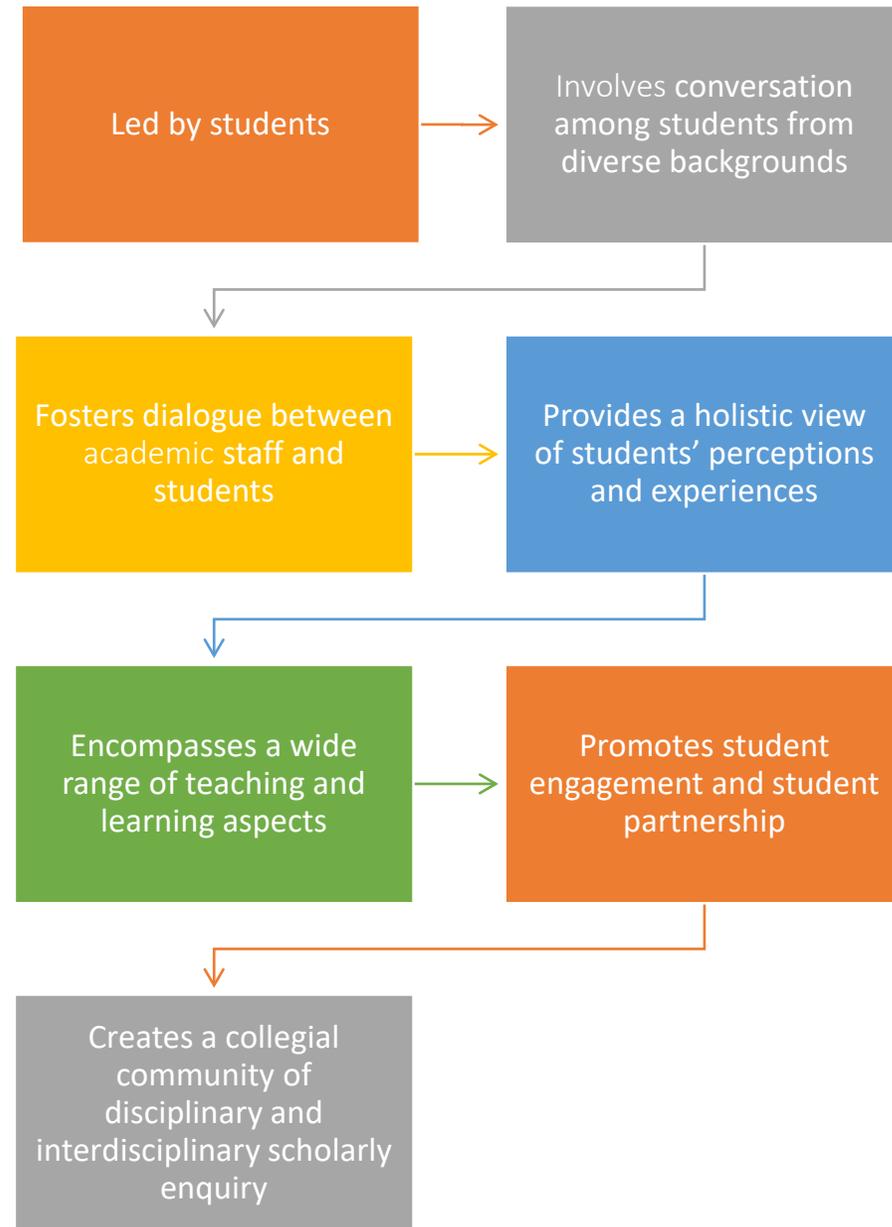
TOKENISTIC APPROACHES DO NOT WORK BUT MOST OFTEN THAT'S CARRIED OUT.



**Be Here, Be Heard
(BHBH)
Aims and Scopes**



How is BHBH different than other student representation around the university?



What does 'student ownership' look like in the BHBH model?

'In BHBH we can decide by ourselves what we want and focus on project that we see as useful for our students within the faculty.'

'BHBH is not a union! It is not about being combative. BHBH is independent and by participating in here our student voice can be heard by the faculty.'

'BHBH keeps the important conversation of Arts students going on intersectionality of issues of teaching and learning.'

'BHBH is the funnel for Arts' Students voice'

'BHBH student ownership allows us to ask the hard questions and knock people out of their comfort zones. Then we work with the academics and faculty to manage the resulting distress.'

A typology of student roles adopted in BHBH

- Students as 'consumers' vs higher education as a 'cooperative enterprise'
- Students as co-creator of their educational experience, students are not separate from the educational process but an inherent part of it.
- Dynamic relationship combining three phenomena – student engagement, co-creation and partnership

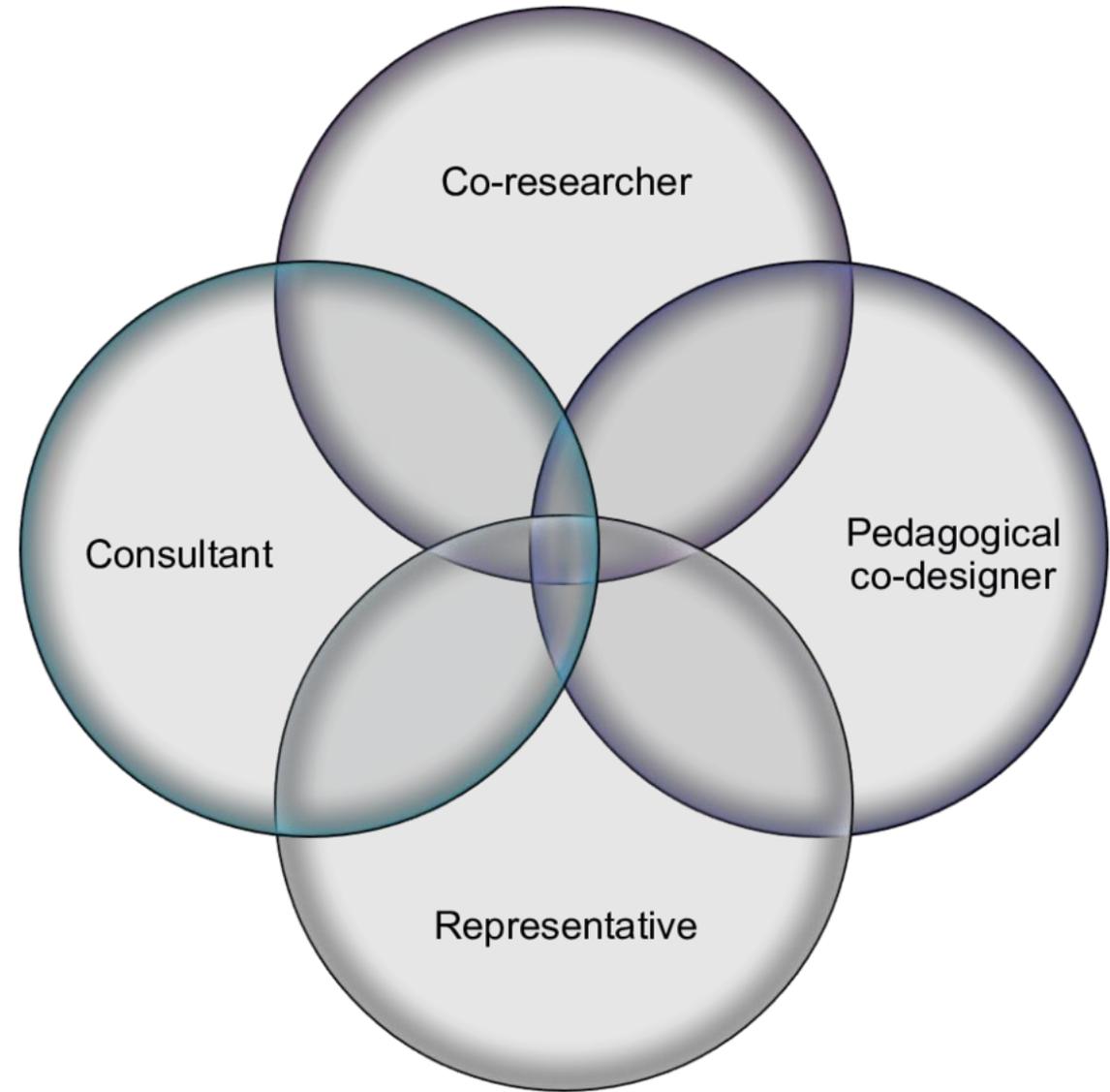


Fig: Student roles in BHBH (adopted from co-creation of learning and teaching, Bovill et al. 2016)

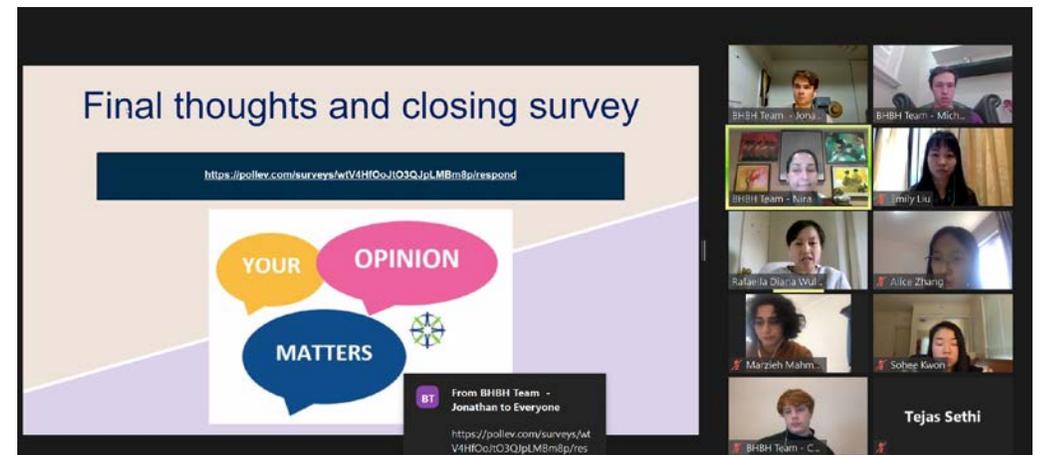
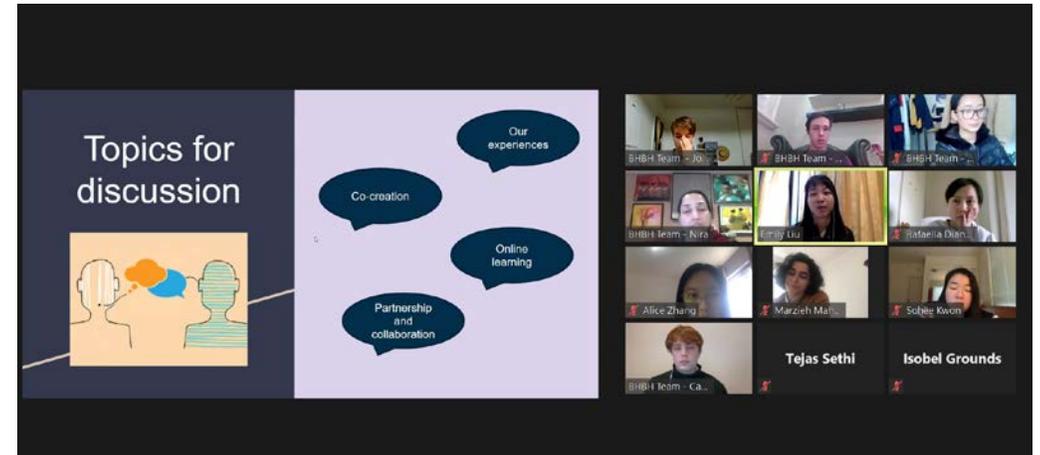
Transition to remote learning and BHBH

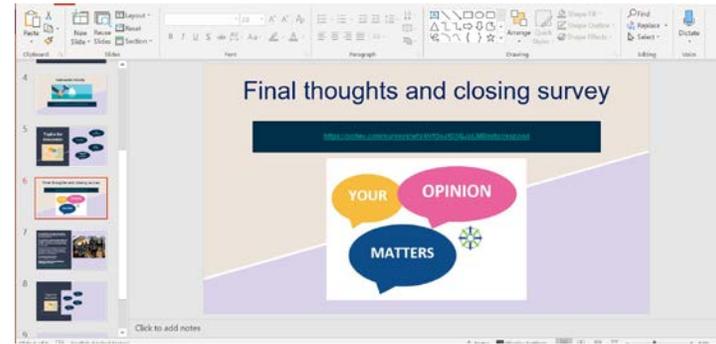
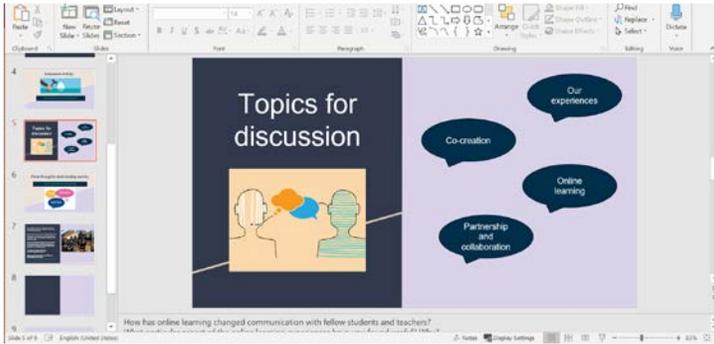
*'We live in a volatile uncertain complex and ambiguous (VUCA) world. VUCA change has helped us reconsider our role as students in actively achieving change and reconsider our "normal". It is not as though past knowledge is defunct, but the rate of change is so fast. **And platform like BHBH is needed more than ever now for students to share, to be heard, to be acknowledged and to get a sense of community.'***



BHBH Online Pop Up Café

- Promotes conversations among students (and with academic staff time to time)
- Ensures the voices of students be heard, and they have meaningful agency in this on-line world and beyond
- Creates the sense of engagement and connectedness





5 What motivated you to join today's event?

To share my experience regarding online learning and probably help improve it.

To know more about the be her be heard program, and probably contribute feedback regarding my learning experience.

I have concerns about the training and working conditions of tutors as well as the quality of education for undergraduate arts students in general. Our learning will also be severely impacted when casual staff members are fired after this semester, so I want to be engaged in discussions and try to do my part in helping where I can.

A friend told me about it

The awesome people behind it <3

This seems like an initiative where I can give constructive feedback to the faculty and contribute towards shaping my own learning experience

I learning other's voices and sharing my ideas as well.

To meet new people and to hear how my peers in the faculty of art have been doing and feeling

To have a discussion about how to improve the arts community!

keen to see what other people have to say about online learning?

Pop Up Café

Thank You

