



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**

FACULTÉ DE PSYCHOLOGIE
ET DES SCIENCES DE L'ÉDUCATION
Section des sciences de l'éducation



Conférence publique

Mardi 12 mars 2024, de 17h30 à 19h00

Uni-Mail, salle MR030

Conférence en anglais

Learning in Digitized Workplaces: Practices of Education and Health Professionals

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Abstract

Digitalization in workplaces has intensified the necessity for professionals to learn fast to maintain pace with emerging technologies. However, their busy schedules and demands for swift delivery of services limits time to attend formal training. What and how they learn to function in digitized work contexts requires empirical data to inform the design of a curriculum to support professionals' learning. This lecture elaborates on a research program conducted in Australia that investigates professional learning lives in the digital evolution of work. The research is based on a survey with education and health professionals to gather insights into what they are doing to learn and update their knowledge and skills in the use of digital technologies. The survey responses show that professionals were active consumers of technology for work and learning. They were using tools and software to enable their own or others' learning, albeit giving priority to their own learning followed by connecting with and supporting their colleagues or others they engage with. A smaller group saw themselves as creators and curators of online content and resources. That is, they are able to manipulate digital technologies in different ways to provide more coordinated and holistic services. New technologies have also extended the scope and spaces where they work. The findings have implications for the kinds of affordances and workplace pedagogies that can best support professionals' learning during everyday work tasks.

Sarojni Choy

Professor Sarojni Choy has expertise in vocational and continuing education with a strong record of leadership in research, teaching, management, industry engagement, and policy at National, State and Institutional levels. Her research focus includes workplace learning, practice-based learning, continuing education and training, integration of learning in different sites, and workforce development. She draws on how adults learn to develop their knowledge, skills and attributes for productive work, thereby contribute to personal, social and economic outcomes. These areas of interest have relevance to reforms relevant to contemporary industries and societies across the globe. Her research has strong implications for practice based and lifelong learning for workers to remain employed and employable in emerging economies. Prof. Choy's leadership in research is demonstrated by a record of successful activities comprising academic publications, securing research funding, editorship of international journals, and developing novice researchers. She has successfully delivered a range of professional development programs to develop learning leaders locally, nationally and internationally.