

Workshop 2

“Introduction to Problem-based Learning Workshop”

Date: 30 September 2010

Time: 11:30 – 16:30

Venue: Kagoshima NCT, Advanced Engineering Course Building 2F

鹿児島高専 専攻科棟2F 共用教室

**Trainer: Glen O’Grady, Director, Centre for Educational Development
Republic Polytechnic, Singapore**

Problem-based Learning (PBL) is an approach to teaching where student learning is triggered by a problem and then scaffolded with the aid of a facilitator and resources. In PBL students are taken through a specific learning process that entails students engaging in:

- Inquiry – finding out, searching, looking up
- Analysis – looking into, organising, sorting, analysing the findings
- Inference – inferring, deducing, postulating causal relationships
- Argument – reasoning, arguing, justifying

The purpose of the workshop is to introduce workshop participants to the idea of PBL by demonstrating a real PBL classroom.

In this workshop Glen O’Grady from the Republic Polytechnic Singapore, will demonstrate how a PBL class works in a Polytechnic setting. The demonstration will be conducted with KOSEN students and participants will see how the facilitator introduces a problem and then facilitates students in defining the problem and specifying key learning issues. The demonstration will also show how with the help of the facilitator students can do team and self directed learning in addressing their learning issues. The PBL demonstration will culminate in students doing short presentations of their learning.

The workshop will conclude with a discussion between the facilitator, participants and students as to the effectiveness of PBL in helping students to learn.