

The place of widening participation

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Presentation outline

- Continuum
- Context
- Evaluating practice
- Employability in South Africa
- WP for postgraduates in USA
- Listening to Learners

Continuum

- Background
- Aims & Objectives
- Staff
- Portfolio
- Dissemination



Context

- Shifting policy context
- Challenging fiscal environment
- Cap on student numbers
- But... an appetite for social mobility

England

Evaluating practice: Aimhigher Hants & IoW

- Impact of shifting policy context
- Activities
 - Embedding and mainstreaming
 - Pace and intensity
 - Reporting
- Staff - engaging, developing, and supporting
- Partnership – maximizing potential

Hudson, A. & Storan, J (2010) *Evaluation & Sustainability Study Aimhigher - Hampshire & Isle of Wight*, Continuum: London



Employability in South Africa

Country Profile

- Educational priorities
- Structure education system
- HE system
- Funding
- Participation in HE
- Policy on widening participation

Employability in South Africa

Workspace – Work Integrated Learning

Project Aims

1. Employability & Entrepreneurship
2. Partnership
3. Employer engagement
4. Staff development opportunities / building capacity
5. Third stream income
6. Research opportunities
7. Knowledge transfer



Workspace

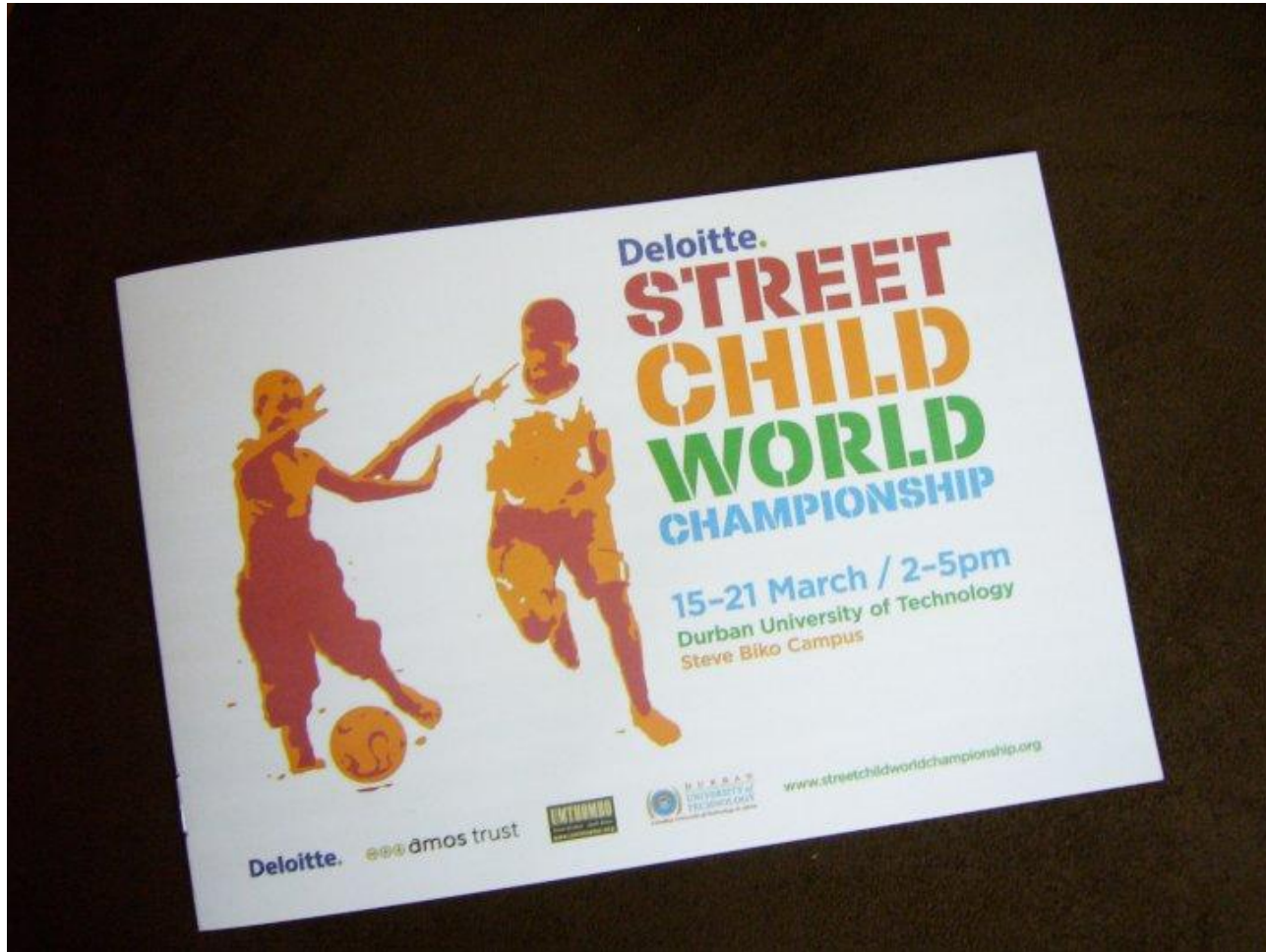
WIL Graphic Design Studio





Workspace

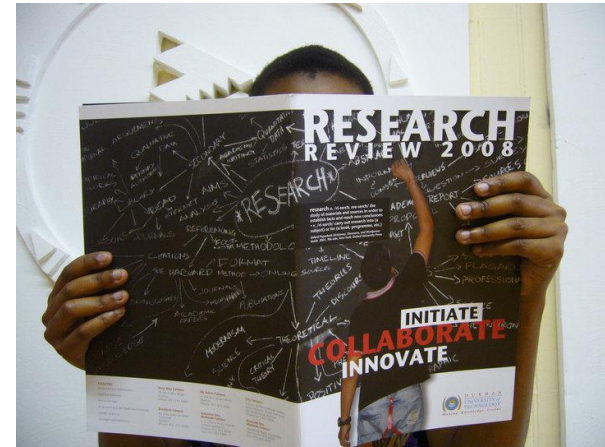
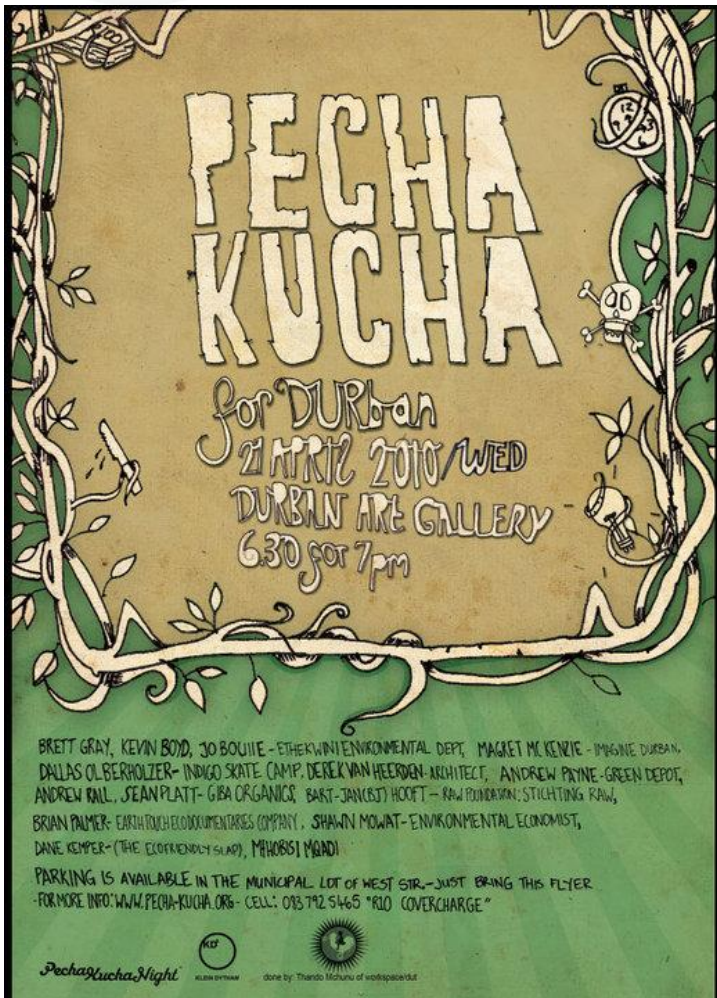
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Workspace

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Employability in South Africa

Skills for the Gauteng

Project Aims

1. Develop policies and recognition of prior learning (RPL) instruments
2. Offer non-state subsidised programmes (NSSP) to adult workers.
3. Support and development for entrepreneurs
4. Re-training of teachers



Vaal University of Technology

Skills for the Gauteng *Beneficiaries - Entrepreneurs in Everton*



WP for postgraduates in USA

Country Profile

- Educational priorities
- Structure education system
- HE system
- Funding
- Participation in HE
- Policy on widening participation

WP for postgraduates in USA

McNair @ Continuum ISI

- TRIO Programs
- McNair Program
 - Aim
 - Program offer
 - Grantees
 - Funding
 - Participants
- Developing the offer



England

Researching progression: Barking & Dagenham

Headline Findings

- 60% of young learners in Barking and Dagenham express an interest in participating in Higher Education
- Why are young learners not progression to HE?
 - Achievement
 - Finance and Families
 - Gender and Ethnicity
 - Information, Advice and Guidance

Berzins, K., Hudson, A., & Storan J. (2010) *Higher Education and Communities: Barking & Dagenham*, Continuum: London



Conclusions

- Challenges of policy transfer
- Identifying opportunities in changing policy landscape
- Importance of linking research, policy, practice
- Value of listening to learners

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