

EFPI Successful in ACEN Competitive Grant

Congratulations to Professor Franziska Trede, Dr Katelin Sutton and David Maxwell on receiving an Australian Collaborative Education Network (ACEN) 2015 Research Grant.

With the project title of *Get engaged! Growing WIL through a workplace supervisor capacity building module*, the team's project proposal met all the selection criteria and was considered to be of great value to the ACEN community. The online engagement module, which will be developed as part of their project, will give workplace student supervisors a critical voice in the work integrated learning (WIL) process.

Funding for only three WIL research grants was available. Projects relating to any of the following themes were invited:

- Partnerships models for engagement with industries and communities to grow WIL
- Working with small to medium enterprises (SMEs) on innovative WIL models
- Evaluation strategies supporting quality WIL.

Franziska Trede, Co-Director at EFPI, Katelin Sutton, Postdoctoral Research Fellow at EFPI and David Maxwell from the School of Creative Industries with industry partner Media Federation of Australia, focused their project on the first of these themes. Knowing that workplace supervisors are often time poor, under resourced and ill prepared for their role, their project plan involves developing, testing and evaluating a module to strengthen workplace supervisors' capabilities. This would allow them to engage more effectively with universities, and better align industry, university and student expectations, roles and responsibilities to enhance WIL experiences.

Franziska received the news while on sabbatical in Austria. For further information about the project, please contact Katelin kasutton@csu.edu.au