



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Department of
Medical Education



The University of Melbourne (Australian University) PRV12150 / CRICOS 00116K

The Evolution of Health Professional Education Research

Thursday 29 February 2024

Health professional education is rife with diversity (of roles, scholarly backgrounds, methodological approaches, and conceptual outlooks). That diversity is an essential condition for the field's current success and continued maturation, but it simultaneously creates challenges with respect to defining quality in a uniform and productive manner. This talk will be aimed at doing that by prompting reflection on trends in health professional education research that can enable discussion about how the field's priorities, its conception of quality and, hence, its scholarship have evolved.

Methodological rigour is important, but we must recognize that scientific progress has little to do with method. Practical relevance is important, but we must recognize that context plays such an essential role in education that proof is a flawed concept. In complex domains we are better served by focusing attention on what empirical data are required to improve our thinking about the practical goals with which we struggle, striving constantly for quality improvement, rather than trusting that a single correct answer could ever be found. Attendees will, thus, be encouraged to embrace the phrase "it depends" and, thereby, to focus their research on explaining why.

Presenter: Professor Kevin Eva, Professor of Medical Education, University of British Columbia, Canada

Time: 5.30pm-7.00pm, followed by refreshments from 7.00-8.00pm

Venue: Ian Potter auditorium, Kenneth Myer building, University of Melbourne, Parkville

This event will be held in-person and via Zoom (a link will be sent to those who select virtual attendance in the registration form)

Please register by this [link](#) by 25 February 2024



Kevin W. Eva, Ph.D., Hon. FAcadMED

Professor Kevin Eva is Associate Director and Scientist in the Centre for Health Education Scholarship, and Professor and Director of Educational Research and Scholarship in the Department of Medicine, at the University of British Columbia. He completed his PhD in Cognitive Psychology (McMaster University) in 2001 and became Editor-in-Chief for the journal *Medical Education* in 2008. Dr. Eva maintains a number of international appointments including Honorary Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne.

The core theme of his diverse research interests is the question of 'how can we improve decision-making for the betterment of health professional training and practice?' Awards for this work include the Karolinksa Institute Prize for Research in Medical Education (Sweden), an Honorary Fellowship from the Academy of Medical Educators (UK), the MILES Award for Mentoring, Innovation, and Leadership in Education Scholarship (Singapore), and the President's Award for Exemplary National Leadership from the Association of Faculties of Medicine in Canada.

For further information, please contact Ms Andrea Meyer: andrea.meyer@unimelb.edu.au