# Leadership for Innovation in Course Design

Associate Professor Elizabeth Thomson, Director, Learning Design Unit

15th October, 2016



"...change does not just happen but must be led—and deftly. Leaders of learning and teaching in universities have a central role in ensuring that their institutions not only survive but thrive in the new transnational, IT-enabled, volatile and competitive environment..."

Scott, G., Coates, H. & Anderson, M (2008), Academic Leadership Capabilities for Australian Higher Education Leaders need to be deft not only at management of current operations but at successfully leading their institutions into new directions

### course design at CSU ...

- Is a team-based activity
- Uses consensus based decision making
- Uses bespoke design software, CourseSpace
- is led by Course Directors made up of a team of stakeholders: academics, professional staff, faculty leadership and external bodies
- takes up to 12 months
- Is complex as it requires the inclusion of TEQSA standards, CSU Graduate Learning
   Outcomes, possibly industry standards, and CSU policies related to learning and teaching
- often requires external accreditation by professional bodies



Northouse, P. 2016 Leadership, Theory and Practice 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Sage: London

"The goal of this leadership theory is to enhance follower performance and follower satisfaction by focusing on follower motivation" (p.115)

Copyright © 2016 Elizabeth A Thomson

#### **OUR VALUES**



We develop h help their con

### CSU values support innovation in design...

Our ethos

('the wisdom of respectfully knowing how to live well in a world worth living in')

Values



#### Insightful

Understanding people and the world



#### Inclusive

Stronger together





Leading for the future

Attributes

Respectful

Perceptive

Accessible Versatile

Consistent Constructive Rigorous Creative

What people will experience

Knowledgeable, wise and open minded

Easy, warm and welcoming

Student first, practical and useful

Leading, imaginative and solid

## Effective leaders for innovation need to be ...

- Insightful respectful, receptive, calm under stress, self aware, flexible It's about ME.
- Inclusive people focussed, teamwork, collaborative, listening, serving the team - it's not about ME
- Impactful mission focussed, improving the CSU student experience – it's not about ME.
- Inspiring creative, disruptive thinkers,– it's not about ME.



# respectful & self-aware to play multiple roles & do multiple work ...





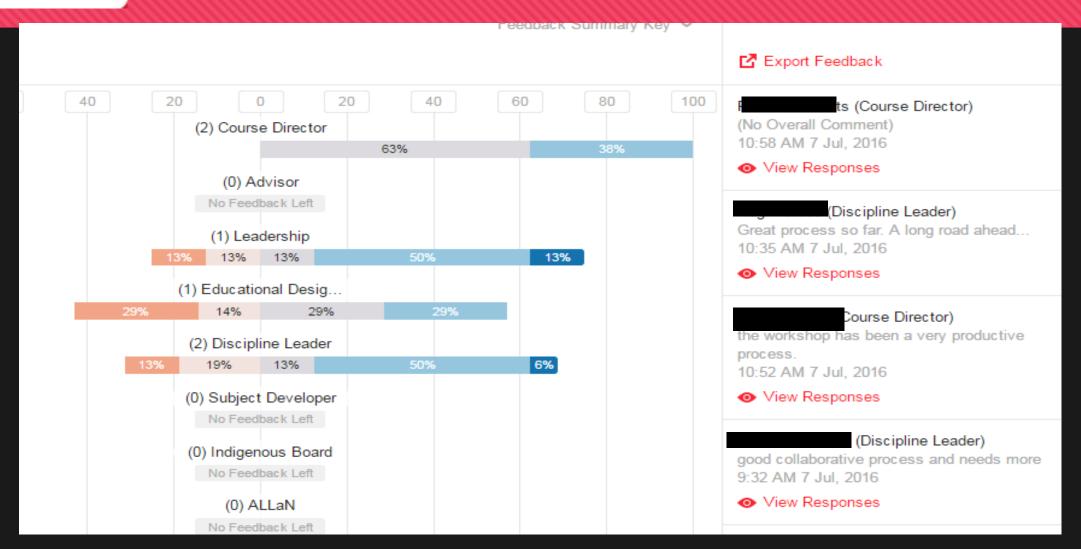
Know when & how to lead...



Know when how to follow...



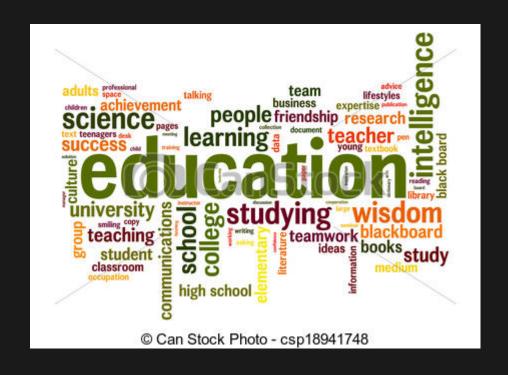
#### team-based and collaborative





# outcomes focussed in order to improve the CSU student experience







### disruptive and creative in order to

- O Create novel course designs within the framework of constructive alignment from standards, products, assessments to subjects
- OCreate learning designs for online ... enabling pedagogy in virtual space

#### Constructive alignment - from standards, products, assessments to subjects



Constructive alignment

# A leadership style which is congruent with the CSU values is less about you and more about the team.



enhances

Copyright © 2016 Elizabeth A Thomson







## Thank you