**Transcript: Perspectives of a student on placement**

**Paul:** Carly, I’m sure that there are many people interested to hear what it’s like from a student’s perspective. What was it like on your last placement?

**Carly:** As part of the course you have to do 20 days of placement. I did my placement at *CAC(Counselling Appraisal Consultants).* They are an Occupational Rehab provider. That was really great. They have Vocational Consultants there, Occupational Therapists and then they have got the Rehabilitation Consultants/Psychologists. So I got to go out on work-site assessments with them, where they would go to the workplace and see how the workplace runs and exactly what tasks and roles that person has to do in their job. I also got to go to the physio appointments to where the Rehab Counsellor and the client and the Physio all sat together and talked about what they would be able to do when they returned to work and what barriers and what they maybe had to modify when they went back for the first couple for weeks and then after that. That was really great - those 20 days. Then they asked me to stay on in in an administrative role for the duration of this year. I might even get a Rehab Counsellor role there - that would be nice. So that’s been really beneficial as well. I do a lot of the invoicing and administrative roles there so I get to see that side of it and then I’ve also got to experience a lot of it on placement as well.

**Paul:** So you get to see the full spectrum?

**Carly:** Definitely. Also the statistics that have to be done at the end of the month and reaching the KPI’s and everything like that.

**Paul:** So Carly, I was wondering if you could tell us about what you found the most rewarding or enjoyed most while on placement?

**Carly:** I actually really enjoyed going out to all the workplaces. I got to go to a couple of manufacturing companies and I got to go to a florist. So it was really different and I think that’s what’s important, which I think you have all mentioned, which is the opportunities you have and the variability – it’s just great to see other workplaces and you think that so and so in their job role, this is what they would do, but when you go out there and you see it, it’s actually quite different.

**Paul:** So, you’re not stuck or chained to a desk?

**Carly:** Exactly. There is a lot of flexibility and I enjoy getting to talk to the Physios and seeing their perspectives. One of the clients was saying to their Vocational Consultants “there’s no way I could possibly lift that” and then we went into the meeting with the Physio and the Physio was saying “yeah, yeah, you can do it, of course you can”. So then from that perspective the client was sort of like ‘well, maybe I can do it’ and because the Rehab Counsellor was there to hear that as well and they could no longer play on that ‘oh I can’t do that’, yeah so I found that really enjoyable – getting out there and to be able to meet a lot more people.

**Janette:** Can I just say too Carly, a very important point that you have just brought up, every clinical placement is potentially a job interview and you have been fortunate enough to be taken on in terms of administration but your very likely to be taken on as a Rehab Counsellor as well.

**Paul:** It’s a very good sign.

**Carly:** Thanks!