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Unlocking the Code to Digital Literacy

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Digital Literacy - what is it?

Dependent on ...

- Discipline
 - Context
 - Environment
 - Understanding ...
-
- Not static
 - Time consuming, frustrating, complicated



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Focus of fellowship:

- Develop a common understanding of digital literacy for higher education in Australia
- Interpret this in the context of skills and capabilities for students
 - Assumed knowledge (the knowledge that students bring to their studies)
 - Employer expectations (graduate knowledge)
- NOT about digital literacy definitions or development in specific curricula (future work?)

Some recent thinking ...

<https://findingheroes.co.nz/2017/06/22/6-top-experts-expose-digital-literacy-mistakes-and-how-to-overcome-them/>

- Digital literacies are plural, context-dependent and socially negotiated (Doug Belshaw)
- Digital literacy cannot be clearly defined or assessed as it is not the same for everyone. However, it starts with foundational skills that provide access to infrastructure which are built on to have personal meaning and relevance. (Helen Beetham)
- Digital literacy is about *confidence* (Iain Maclaren)
- Digital literacy is about being able to critically reflect on why we use something rather than on using it properly (Maha Bali)
- We cannot ignore technology. It is the world we live in. (Michael Stephens)



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Proposed understanding of digital literacy

Digital Literacy is the ability to identify and use technology confidently and creatively, to effectively meet the demands and challenges of living, learning and working in a digital society.

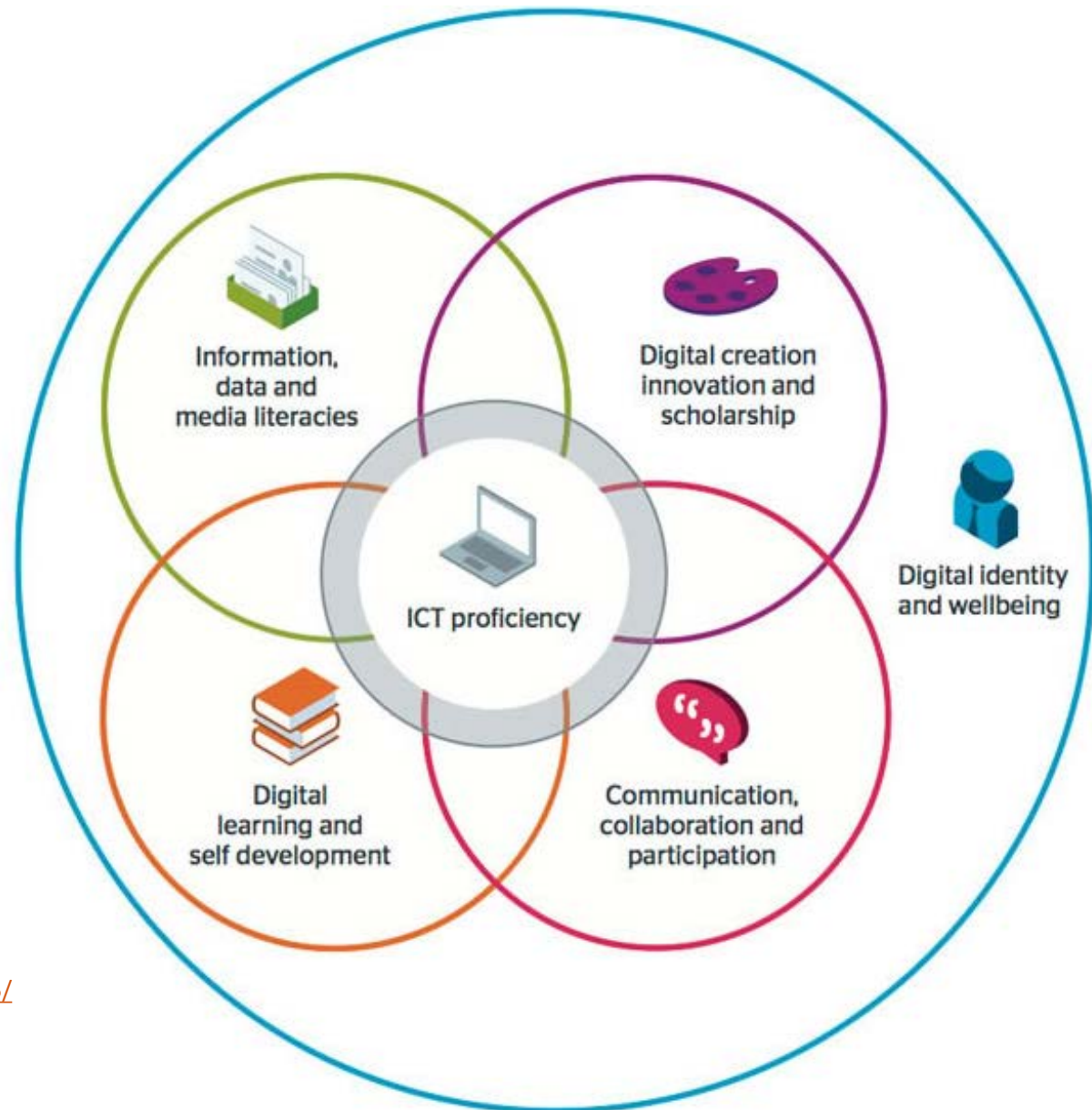


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So what?

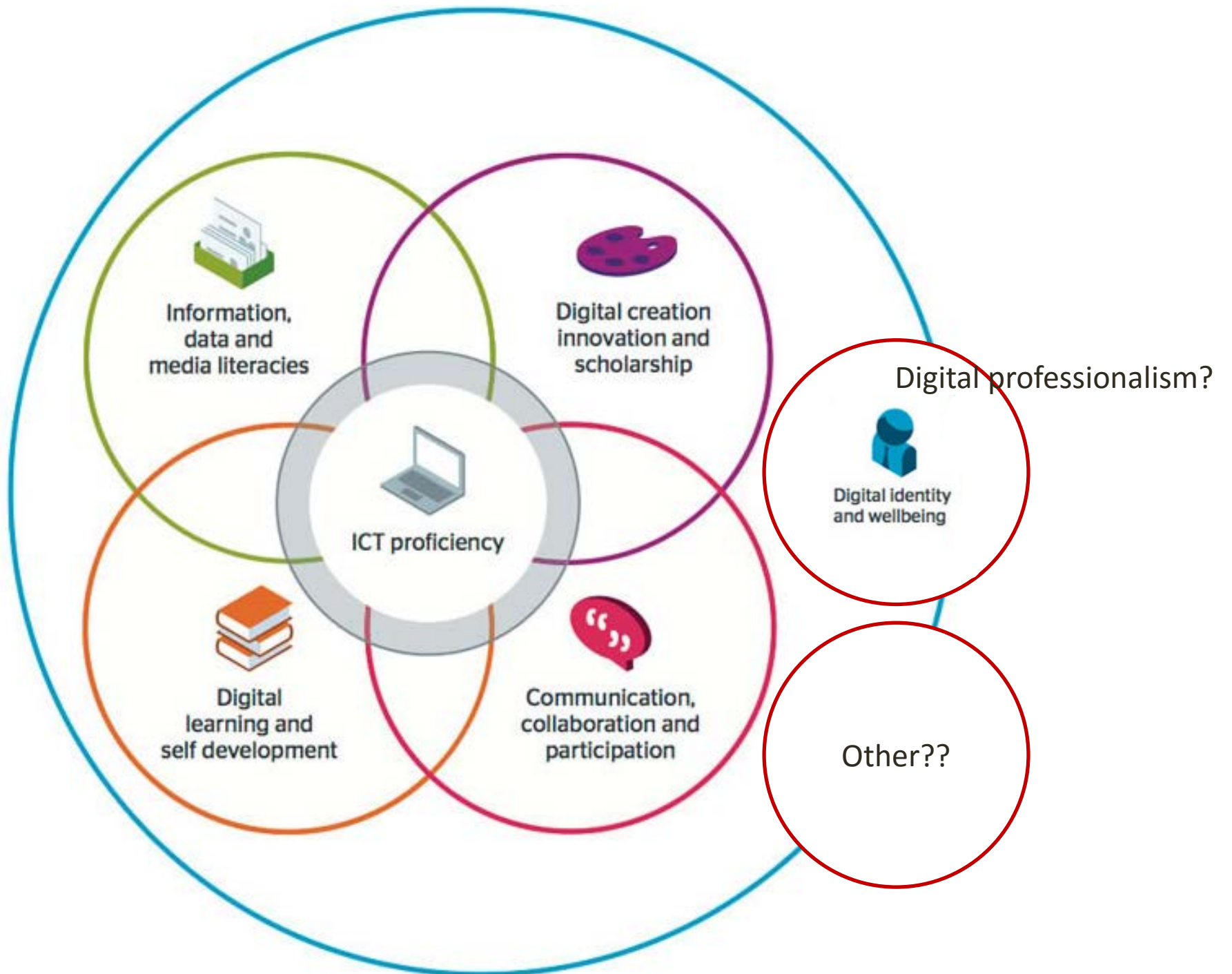
- A motherhood statement
- Underpinned by a framework identifying literacies
- Incorporating the skills and capabilities
- Forming the benchmark for assumed knowledge

A framework



JISC 'Digital Capabilities: the six elements':
<https://digitalcapability.jiscinvolve.org/wp/files/2015/06/Six-elements1.jpg>

Note: based on the former JISC 'Seven elements of digital literacies' model (2014)



Quotable Quote : Kofi Annan

[digital] Literacy is ... a tool for daily life in modern society ...

For everyone, everywhere, *[digital]* literacy is, along with education in general, a basic human right ...

[digital] Literacy is, finally, the road to human progress and the means through which every man, woman and child can realize his or her full potential.

<http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/113611-literacy-is-a-bridge-from-misery-to-hope-it-is>

[...] added by Jo

