

TEACHING MATTERS

No. 12 October 2015

Welcome!

Welcome to the October edition of *Teaching Matters*, where we unveil a new digest format for the newsletter. This is based on [our new blog](#), and in this digest edition you will find the items have links to full versions on the blog itself.

Visit the blog at <https://ditlittcteachingmattersblog.wordpress.com/>

You can also choose to follow the blog to catch updates in between our email editions.

Remember to visit [our main website](#) for more information about any of the items here or on the blog, and of course you are welcome to [contact us](#) with any questions or feedback you may have.

Higher Education Policy (10 ECTS) – some spaces still available



Interested in hearing about, discussing, influencing Local, National & International policy? There are still some spaces available on our CPD Higher Education Policy module commencing **Tuesday 27th October**. This module provides an overview of key policies and strategic frameworks of relevance to the HE sector.

Speakers confirmed for 2015 include: Prof Brian Norton, (President of DIT), Lewis Purser, (Director, Academic Affairs, Irish Universities Association), Brigid McManus, (former Secretary General, Dept. of Education & Skills), Prof Ellen Hazelkorn, (Policy Advisor to the Higher Education Authority, Prof Sarah Moore (Chair, National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning) Jacinta Stewart (Chief Executive, CDETB), Orla Christle (Senior Policy Analyst, National Office for Access into Higher Education).

October Fest of CPDs



The LTTC has a range of CPDs commencing in October including **Higher Education Policy** – guest speakers: starting Oct 27th and **Learning, Teaching and Assessment** - ideal for new lecturers or those wanting a refresher: starting Oct 29th.

Launch of Change 1 Thing and first prize winners!



The LTTC **Change 1 Thing by Spring** campaign was launched on Sept 18th in Aungier Street. From the many great ideas for change submitted so far, we have had two winners! Congratulations to **Judy Doyle** from the School of Languages, Law and Social Sciences in the College of Arts and Tourism who wants to learn this year how to deliver lectures online, and to **Lucy Bowe** of the School of Accounting and Finance, who plans to focus on using active learning to engage students in large classes, using techniques such as taking questions via Twitter, Gallery Walk, quizzes, one minute feedback sheets and more extensive use of the collaborative tools in Webcourses.

Launch of TU4D Programmes of the Future and First Year Prototypes



Professor Rhona Sharpe, Oxford Brookes University, UK, launched the first TU4D collaborative curriculum initiatives as part of a Re-imagining the TU4Dublin Curriculum event in DIT on 18th September last. The event, which was opened by **Dr Mary Meaney**, President of ITB and chaired by **Professor Brian O'Neill**, recognised the importance of student transition into higher education and the first year experience. In total twenty prototype projects and seven cross-institutional programmes received funding.

LTTC wins two international awards in September



Two DIT LTTC initiatives, **DIT TELTA** and **The 12 Apps of Christmas** won top prizes at the International eLearning Association Awards (iELA) which took place in Florence in late September 2015, against strong competition from universities in the USA, Germany, Australia and Greece.

First Year Tutors Light Lunches



Are you a 1st Year tutor or involved in teaching 1st years? If so, we have another 'light lunch' series you won't want to miss in October / November 2015! As well as lunch, you will have the opportunity to meet and chat with other first year tutors, meet face to face with members of the DIT Campus Life, Access and Student Services and get useful information on the services available to your students and the relevant contact details, discuss strategies for referring students to the services available, discuss good practice and identify opportunities for collaboration and synergy.

Research Corner



Anne Marie Shier, a graduate of the Postgraduate Diploma in Third Level Learning and Teaching, together with current Diploma participant **Dave Williams**, both based in the School of Languages, Law and Social Sciences, have published a paper stemming from Anne Marie's Diploma practitioner research in the *European Journal of Social Education 2015*. The paper is entitled *An Evaluation of the Use of Problem Based Learning and Film as a Method of Teaching and Assessment for Social Care Students*.

Teaching Tip of the Month: Brilliant Blogs



With our own move towards a blog format for *Teaching Matters*, we thought this month might be the time to suggest some further reading from the educational blogosphere. Here are some recommended blogs for all things teaching and learning:

- **Annie Murphy Paul's [The Brilliant Blog](#)** – broad-ranging discussion of education at all levels; includes recent discussion of assessment, and the complexities of lecturing to diverse groups of students.
- **Martin Weller's [The EdTechie](#)** – widely read and highly regarded blog on e-learning, open education and digital scholarship.
- **Pat Thomson's [Patter](#)** – a great resource for supervisors, research students and anyone working on academic writing.
- **[Guardian Higher Education Network Blog](#)** – news, debate, and discussion of issues affecting higher education internationally.

CONTACT US!

We welcome enquiries and your feedback to lttc@dit.ie