

TEACHING MATTERS

No. 13 November 2015

Welcome

Welcome to the November *Teaching Matters* digest. It's been another busy month across the Institute but a time to celebrate the achievements of all our graduates, as well as looking ahead to events over the next couple of months.

Follow us!

In addition to this digest, you can follow our blog to catch updates in between our emails. If you are using Wordpress, you can **Follow** the blog via your own account to get update of any of our blog posts via email. Remember also 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.

Congratulations to our LTTC Graduates 2015!



We are delighted to mark the graduation of 56 students from the LTTC's **MA in Higher Education, MSc in Applied e-Learning** and **Postgraduate Diploma in Third Level Learning and Teaching** on 14th November 2015. Graduates were presented with their degrees and diplomas by **Professor Brian Norton** at a ceremony in St Patrick's Cathedral. We have shared a selection of photos from the day on [our webpages](#).

Well done once again to all of our graduates!

Research and Scholarly Conversations – LTTC Webinar Series



The LTTC is delighted to launch a series of conversations about current doctoral pedagogic research and scholarship taking place across the TU4D. These webinars are scheduled to allow busy academics to drop in online to a 45 minute lunchtime slot and engage with the researcher about their topic.

The first webinar took place on Monday 23rd November, on the theme of *Technology and the Formation of Academic Practice*, presented by **Ciarán O'Leary**, Lecturer in DIT School of Computing, and College Head of Learning Development. The session was recorded and will shortly be available for you to access on our website. The second webinar will be presented by **Neven Bermingham** of the School of Hospitality Management and Tourism, and will take place in February 2016 [find out more >>](#)

12 Apps of Christmas commences 1st December 2015



The second instalment in the award winning series **The 12 Apps of Christmas** will commence on 1st December 2015. This 12 day free online project is aimed at students of all ages undertaking further education, third level education, and/or post-graduate study, and also at their tutors and lecturers. Each morning over 12 weekdays a page will be released that reviews a particular mobile app and explores it in terms of how it could help students personalise their learning. [find out more >>](#)

Change 1 Thing by Spring – the story so far



The **Change 1 Thing by Spring** campaign has been visiting each of the DIT sites over the past number of weeks. We hope we have seen most of you on our travels, and that you have seen our banner, posters or postcards wherever you are located. We have received many of your ideas by post or electronically at the LTTC and we plan to compile these shortly, as well as picking out some more winners! Meanwhile, please keep your ideas coming in and of course keep changing those one things...

[find out more >>](#)

CPDs starting in January 2016 – Dates for your new diary!



As we approach the end of 2015, you might be reflecting on the semester and planning for the year ahead. The LTTC have [three more CPDs commencing in January 2016](#) which may be of interest:

- **Supervising Undergraduate Dissertations and Projects**
- **Learning, Teaching and Assessment**
- **Assessment and Feedback**

[find out more >>](#)

HE Policy Module explores current trends and challenges



As part of the HE Policy Module seminar series, on 10th November we welcomed **Professor Ellen Hazelkorn**, Policy Advisor to the HEA (Ireland) and Emeritus Professor and Director, Higher Education Policy Research Unit (HEPRU). Eighteen participants are registered on the Module which provides an overview of key policies and strategic frameworks of relevance to the HE sector. **Jacinta Stewart**, Chief Executive Officer of the [CDETB](#), presented on 24th November followed by a special presentation by **Dr Noel O'Connor**, Director of Student Services in DIT on 'Rediscovering Vocational Education'.

[find out more >>](#)

Living Knowledge 2016 – Conference Call for Papers Opens



Living Knowledge 2016 will be hosted in DIT Aungier St and Kevin St from 22-24 June 2016. The Access and Civic Engagement Office (ACE) and the Learning, Teaching and Technology Centre (LTTC) are co-organising this major event and they are inviting submissions from anyone who would like to suggest ideas for interactive, collaborative and engaging sessions to be included in the conference programme. The conference theme is: Integrating community based partnership into learning and teaching for responsible research and innovation (RRI). The closing date for submission of proposals is **January 7th 2016**.

Find out more on the [Teaching Matters blog](#) or visit the conference website at <http://www.livingknowledge.org/lk7/>

More Awards for DIT e-Learning Projects



Congratulations go to DIT's **Alice Luby** (School of Marketing) and **Frances Boylan** (LTTC) who came joint 3rd recently at the eLearning Excellence Awards at the 14th European Conference in eLearning 2015, hosted by the University of Hertfordshire, UK. Alice Luby's submission, 'Using eLearning to Build Accounting Competency Amongst First Year Students', detailed an innovative cross-faculty collaborative project called "Action Accounting" that was headed up by both herself and Tony Kiely of the School of Hospitality Management & Tourism. Frances Boylan's submission, 'Building an Online Faculty Development Opportunity' focused on the approach taken, and the feedback received, on The 12 Apps of Christmas project that ran at DIT for the first time during December 2014.

National Forum Seminar Series 2015-16



DIT has once again been successful in securing funding from the [National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning](#) for its annual [Seminar Series](#).

Three seminars were funded, and the first of these took place on 29th October, with **Dr Samantha Pugh** of the University of Leeds speaking on 'Rethinking the dissertation as a way to develop and assess student research and enterprise skills in STEM disciplines'. [find out more >>](#)

First Year Tutors Light Lunches



Are you a 1st Year tutor or involved in teaching 1st years? If so, we hope you have had the chance to join a 'light lunch' in October or November. [Further lunches are planned for the new year](#). 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. [find out more >>](#)

Teaching Fellowships 2014-15 and 2015-16



The **Teaching Fellowships Report 2014-15** is in the final stages of production and will be published for the first time as an e-book to [Arrow](#) – please watch this space for further details! We acknowledge the help of our colleagues in the Library with the publication of this report.

Meanwhile, applications are welcome for Teaching Fellowships in 2016. The closing date is 11th December for projects commencing by 25th January 2016. You can find full details [on our main website >>](#)

Teaching Tips of the Month



How can we improve group work in the classroom? Faculty Focus reports on students' perspectives of group work and ways to realise the potential of this method in your teaching – [find out more at their site](#).

How do you use social media in your classroom? Read what the most influential are doing, and get ideas to try out yourself at the [JISC's list of social media influencers](#).

CONTACT US!

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