LEARNING, TEACHING + TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

TEACHING MATTERS

No. 3, October 2014

Welcome!

Welcome back to a new academic year. Don't forget to check the <u>LTTC website</u> for further details of all of the items in this edition.
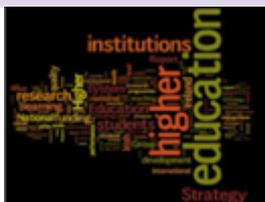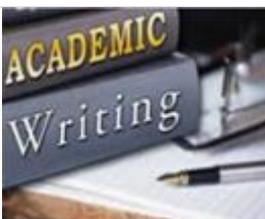
The LTTC has moved!

The LTTC has said farewell to Mount Street after some 15 years. We have now moved, together with our colleagues in Staff Training and Development, to the fifth floor of the Aungier Street building. We look forward to welcoming you to programmes and events in our new spaces throughout this year.

CPDs: Three CPDs are available for you to sign up right now!

Higher Education Policy (10 ECTS)

- Would you like to know more about HE policy development within a national and international context? Heard about the Hunt report, Bologna Process and HEA Institutional performance compacts but not sure how they might impact upon local strategic decisions and resourcing and the quality of learning and teaching?
- This Continuing Professional Development short course provides participants with an opportunity to develop a personal perspective on a selected range of HE issues through a series of interactive seminars with key policy makers.
- Sessions run **10am – 1pm** on **Tuesdays**: 21st October, 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th November, and 2nd December for 6 weeks.
- The closing date for applications is **October 14th**.

Academic Writing and Publishing (10 ECTS)

- Writing is at the heart of academic life, but it can sometimes seem impossible to find time and space to get it done. So to best fit in with a busy academic's schedule, we have designed this module to be both flexible and motivational to suit your writing needs. A series of tutorials starts **Tuesday 28th October** (10am-1pm & 2-5pm) and continues on subsequent Tuesdays on 25th

November (2-5pm), 9th December (10am -1pm & 2-5pm), 20th January (10am-1pm) and 24th February (2-5pm).

- This module is best suited to those who have sufficient data to write a paper suitable for submission for publication.
- There are two practical and useful outputs from the module – each participant will write a paper for submission for publication in a peer reviewed journal and be invited to make a conference presentation at our annual Graduate Conference which will take place in 2015 on June 16th.
- The closing date for applications is **October 21st**.

DIT TELTA - Technology-Enhanced Learning, Teaching and Assessment

- Interested in experiencing, exploring and learning more about existing and emerging learning technologies? Then this **ONLINE** accredited CPD module is for you!
- You will to set your own **personal learning objectives** at the outset, thereby enabling you to reflect on the weekly topics from your own professional perspective.
- The module will begin on **November 4th 2014**.
- For more details, and fantastic testimonials, see http://dittelta.wordpress.com/.
  Register soon to reserve your place!

How do I apply for these short courses?
To apply, please use the online application form at: and, if you are eligible, ensure that you complete a fee waiver form for the module fee - guidelines on the fee waiver process are available here.

Further details on Continuing Professional Development courses are available on our website.

Mobile Learning Project 2014 off to a flying start!

With dedicated support from **Dr Frances Boylan** (LTTC), eight DIT staff members have committed to embedding mobile learning technologies into their learning and teaching practices this semester. They have gotten off to a flying start and are working on a wide range of interesting projects. If you'd like to follow their progress, and keep up to date with innovative mobile learning ideas as well, you can follow along at http://ditmobilelearning2014.wordpress.com/

Research and Awards

DIT Teaching Fellowship Projects 2014-15

- This year's call for Teaching Fellowships focused on supporting collaborative work to enhance learning and/or curriculum development at a programme or cross-institutional level.

- Seven Fellowship projects have been funded, two in CoAT, one in CoB, one in CEBE and three in CoSH.
- The Fellowships will be formally launched by **Dr Muiris O'Connor** of the HEA on **Tuesday 21st October** in Aungier Street – please watch for further details of this event.
- The launch event will also include dissemination of the **2013-14 Fellowships Report**. Chapters documenting individual Fellowship projects from each of the previous reports **have recently been published on Arrow**. The LTTC would like to thank Yvonne Desmond and her colleagues in the Library very specially for their great assistance with this work.

DIT SEED funded Learning Teaching & Assessment Projects

- This year's call was for studies likely to lead to developments in teaching practice and methodology aligned with the current strategic priorities of DIT and in the establishment of the TU4Dublin.
- The review panel comprised representatives from ITTD, DIT REIS, LTTC, DITSU and College Heads of Learning Development. 12 project applications were received. Eight projects were successful in obtaining funding: one from CoAT, two from CEBE and four from CoSH.
- A range of projects were funded including **Bridging the Gap** to engage first year students, an **online TU French grammar open resource** initiative, the **MEET project** to maximise Erasmus exchange student support, **Source mobile app** to support student study strategies and **Hitting new ground running,** pre-entry support for international students.

News from the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning

Prof Brian Norton with Pat Hannon and Eileen Hannon

Prof Brian Norton with Bryan Duggan and Rod Hassett (host)

- The National Forum announced its inaugural **Teaching Heroes** award winners on Tuesday 30th September at a ceremony in Dublin Castle: congratulations to **Bryan Duggan** (School of Computing), and **Pat Hannon**, (School of Media Studies) were the DIT recipients.
- The full list of winners can be viewed on the Forum website.
- Meanwhile, the Forum has announced the list of collaborative enhancement projects moving through to the second phase of assessment under its **Building Digital Capacity** theme.
- 19 of 33 projects submitted have reached this second phase, and DIT is leading on two of these including one initiative with our TU4D partners. The projects are **Team-based Programme (re)development initiative (TBPRDI)** and **Playful Transitions**.
- A full list of projects progressing to the second stage is available on the Forum website.

Academic Writing Centre – tutors appointed

The first DIT Academic Writing Centre (AWC) tutors have now been appointed. Colette Barry, Keiron Fletcher, Joe Garrihy, Jenny Hauser and Eoin Mulvany attended a training workshop in Kevin St facilitated by Dr Alison Farrell from the Academic Writing Centre in NUIM. As well as meeting each other for the first time, they had the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with Maynooth's new tutors.

It is planned to open the DIT AWC early in October. With locations in Kevin St and Bolton St campuses, the new Centre will provide free, non-judgemental writing help to any student, undergraduate or postgraduate, regardless of course, degree or level. See **http://www.dit.ie/awc/**

For more information, please contact Maria-Jose.Gonzalez@dit.ie

Maria-José Gonzalez, Alison Farrell and tutors from NUIM and DIT academic writing centres meeting at Kevin St.

LTTC Events - What's on this semester

- **Our Workshop programme is constantly updated. You can find out more on our website.**

CONTACT US!

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