LEARNING, TEACHING + TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

TEACHING MATTERS

No. 9, April 2015

Welcome!

There is still a full schedule of LTTC events coming up in the coming weeks – if you are interested in eLearning, researching your practice and getting published, working with the first year curriculum... there is something here for you!

We would also like to draw your attention to the opportunity to undertake one of our postgraduate programmes or CPD modules – some places are available but the application date is fast approaching.

Have you been working on a research paper on your practice that you would like to see published? Have a look at our Irish Journal of Academic Practice below.

Please visit our website for more information about any of the items here, and of course you are welcome to contact us with any questions or feedback you may have.

Focus on Blended Learning – May 2015

- **Thinking of next semester? Interested in trying something new?**
- **Would you like more flexibility in your teaching?**
- **Would your STUDENTS like more flexibility?**
- **Blended learning might be the answer!**

Blended learning combines face-to-face classroom teaching with online learning.

It goes beyond just hosting supplementary materials online - traditional face-to-face contact time is reduced and lecturers and students interact and collaborate online, optimising student engagement and greatly increasing convenience and flexibility in a pedagogically effective way. More information can be found at Educause.

Workshops on blended learning are available throughout May, with some sessions online, and all interested staff are encouraged to attend one, some or all of the sessions.

The first introductory session, "Blended Learning - an Overview" runs online on Tuesday 5th May, from 1pm to 2pm, Book your place!

- Blended Learning: An Overview, Tues 5 May, 1pm - 2pm
- Blended Learning: Screencasting, Mon 11 May, 12noon to 2pm
- Blended Learning: YouTube, Weds 13 May, 2pm - 3pm
- Blended Learning: Collaboration, Mon 18 May, 11am - 1pm
- Blended Learning: Flipped Classroom, Weds 20 May, 1pm - 2pm
- Blended Learning: Webinars, Tues 26 May, 1pm - 2pm

Programmes of the future!
Do you have an idea for an innovative new programme?

- **Do you want help to revitalise or redesign an existing programme?**
- **The TU4Dublin is seeking staff ideas to develop the academic programmes of the future.**

Whether it's an emerging new subject area, an unprecedented interdisciplinary activity, or an innovative approach to teaching, learning and assessment, the TU4Dublin wants to facilitate staff in forging the way forward for Irish higher education.

If you are already thinking along these lines, or would like to explore ways to start the ball rolling, come along to a 2-hour workshop on Thursday 7 May, 2-4, in DIT Kevin St.

Facilitated by [Professor Rhona Sharpe](#) (Oxford Brookes University), the session is designed to help you and potential programme team members to assess viability, to discuss ways to develop your ideas, and to outline the formal processes involved in progressing from idea to reality.

The TU4Dublin will shortly announce **funding to facilitate a limited number of new programmes,** and this session will provide details of supports available to you in the process.

- **Thursday 7 May 2015**
- **DIT Kevin Street, 2pm to 4pm**
- **Facilitator: Professor Rhona Sharpe, Oxford Brookes University**
- **BOOKING: Via [Eventbrite](#) or phone 4027866**

MORE INFORMATION?
Contact jen.harvey@dit.ie, kevin.orourke@dit.ie, rosemary.cooper@ittdublin.ie , daniel.mcsweeney@itb.ie

Consolidating our TU4Dublin 1st Year Curriculum Redesign Workshop

Join us for the second workshop to re-imagine the TU4Dublin 1st Year Experience on 12th and 13th May 2015.

Facilitated by **Ewan McIntosh,** Educator, Technology Entrepreneur, Founder and CEO of NoTosh. Ewan McIntosh works with global clients in both the worlds of Education and the Creative Industries. NoTosh is one the world's most innovative education companies. To find out more about Ewan and NoTosh see http://notosh.com/.

This immersive workshop will provide the three partner Institutes with an opportunity to build upon the design thinking ideas from last year as they design and consolidate a new first year experience that will characterise our Technological University learner encounter – to shape and support their transition into higher education.
All staff and students from DIT, ITTD and ITB are welcome to attend, whether you participated last year or not.

Book here to ensure your place

Ewan McIntosh who will visit DIT on May 12th and 13th

Open the Door To Your Learning!
Applications for LTTC Programmes Open

- Interested in exploring new methods and techniques for your teaching?
- Want to know more about how new technologies can transform learning experiences? The LTTC's accredited courses could be for you!
- **Applications are currently open for all of our programmes with start dates in September 2015:**
    - **MA in Higher Education**
    - **MSc in Applied eLearning**
    - **Postgraduate Diploma in Third Level Learning and Teaching**
    - **CPD Short Courses**
- To find out more, **please visit our Programmes page** or contact any of the Programme Co-ordinators for more details.

Irish Journal of Academic Practice (IJAP) Call for Papers 2015

IJAP, the LTTC online peer reviewed journal for pedagogic research and scholarship [learning, teaching, technology and professional development, with special emphasis on innovative practices] is now inviting articles for **Issue No 4, June 2015**.

The aim of the journal is to provide a platform to academics, researchers, scholars, professionals and postgraduate students, for publishing papers in the fields of third level learning, teaching and technology, and related areas.

Important Dates:
- Paper Submission Deadline Extended: **May 8 2015**
- Issue Publication Date: **June 16, 2015**

Manuscripts should be between 4000-6,000 words in length, including all references. Author guidelines are available on the journal website.

If you would like to discuss a contribution please contact one of the editors, **Roisin Donnelly** (roisin.donnelly@dit.ie) or Kevin **O'Rourke** (kevin.orourke@dit.ie)

First Year Tutors Light Lunch Series 2014-15

A series of 6 **'Transition into Higher Education'** light lunch sessions for staff involved in teaching and supporting first years took place at a range of DIT campuses over this academic year. In total, 32 academic staff and 30 professional support staff attended. The sessions were organised by **Rachel O'Connor (Campus Life)** and **Claire McDonnell (LTTC)** and provided an opportunity for those teaching first years to; (i) meet each other and discuss common concerns as well as good practice and opportunities for collaboration and (ii) meet with professional support staff face to face and obtain information on the services available to students and relevant contact details (e.g. Career Development Centre, Student Services, Medical Centre, Financial Aid, Disability Support Service, International Office, Access and Civic Engagement, Library Services).

Light Lunch in Kevin St

Based on requests for information from tutors, in Semester 1, an input was provided from Student Services on advising students on withdrawal and deferral processes. In Semester 2, inputs were provided on establishing boundaries when dealing with students in distress, financial aid and on supporting international students. This was the second light lunch series and a third is planned with sessions in November 2015 and March 2016.

Special Event: Academic Development – a forecast and guide to the years ahead

Colleagues with interests in teaching and learning, and the wider field of academic development, are invited to a special event on Thursday 7th May looking at the future of this area.

Three education networks, EDIN, AISHE and INEW have organised this event in collaboration. We look forward to welcoming **Professor Mary Deane Sorcinelli** of UMass Amherst to DIT for this session. The event will also include the launch of the EDIN/AISHE-J Special Issue which was published recently.

This will be a research-based session in which we will discuss key findings from an extensive 2012 survey of academic developers in North America (U.S. and Canada). We'll focus on emerging trends in personnel, priorities, structures, practices, and directions of teaching and learning centres. Participants will consider how to best guide our centres and support our institutions in creating new solutions to emerging challenges.

- To register please visit our EventBrite link
- **Thursday 7th May, 2pm to 4pm**
- Room 3029, DIT Aungier Street
- The event is supported by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning
- More information on Prof Mary Deane Sorcinelli
- More information on the event: please email claire.mcavinia@dit.ie

Prof Mary Deane Sorcinelli who will visit DIT on 7th May

SAVE THE DATE! 22nd-26th June DIT eLearning Summer School 2015

The thirteenth eLearning Summer School will run this year from Monday 22nd June to Friday 26th in a DIT venue.

More information available soon at
http://lttc.dit.ie/lttc/elearning/elearningsummerschool/

For provisional bookings email lttc@dit.ie

SAVE THE DATE! 16th June Graduate Student Conference

**The sixth Graduate Student Conference will run this year on
Tuesday 16th June in DIT Aungier Street.**

The provisional theme is:
From Research to Author: How to Get Your Academic Work Published

More information available soon at
http://www.dit.ie/lttc/researchscholarship/graduateconference/

For provisional bookings, email lttc@dit.ie

Research Corner

- Congratulations to **Dr Pauline Rooney** of the LTTC who has been awarded a SEDA Fellowship.

- **Patrick Walsh** (MSc 2014) is presenting his research from the MSc Applied eLearning at the EdTech Conference in May - Evaluating the Data Analytic Features of Blackboard Learn 9.1: An Academic Perspective.

- DIT is well-represented elsewhere at EdTech with presentations of their research by colleagues in Computing, **Ciaran O'Leary** and **Damian Gordon**, **Trevor Boland** of the Disability Support Service, and from LTTC, **Roisin Donnelly, Claire McDonnell** and **Claire McAvinia**. Collaborative work on the development of the Graduate Attributes Toolkit will be presented by **Jen Harvey (LTTC), Allison Kavanagh (Library), Dave Kilmartin (Careers Service), Rachel O'Connor (Campus Life), Ciaran O'Leary (CoSH), and Kevin O'Rourke (LTTC)**. The Open Educational Resources focused research project funded by the National Forum will be presented by the collaborating institutions including DIT with **Pauline Rooney, Claire McAvinia and Yvonne Desmond**.

- **Stephen Shanley** (MA Year 1) has had a proposal for an oral presentation accepted for the Global Internship Conference to be held in UCD, June 9-12. The presentation is entitled; "Towards a Pedagogy of Internship".

News from the National Forum

Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund (Driving Enhancement of Digital Capacity for Impact in Irish Higher Education)
Call for Proposals—Phase 2—2015
Call Issued 27th April 2015
DEADLINE 9th SEPTEMBER 2015
- This call for proposals aims to support the advancement of the recommendations of the report Teaching and Learning in Irish Higher Education: A Roadmap for enhancement in a digital world 2015-2017 – which brings together the findings and priorities from the sectoral consultation, research and scoping process for building digital capacity undertaken by the National Forum.
- Full details are available at the Forum website

National Forum Panel 2015/16 Teaching and Learning and/or Disciplinary Expertise

- On advice from the National Forum Board, the Forum is compiling a panel of those within the sector who might be willing to share their expertise to engage and support the Forum in realising its work plan during the coming academic year. Panel members will be able to contribute in a range of ways. By setting up this panel we aim to maximise the potential impact of sectoral expertise in providing thought leadership on teaching and learning enhancement in Ireland.
- If you would like to be considered as a potential contributor to specific themes in the on-going development of the National Forum's work, please contact info@teachingandlearning.ie for application details. **Closing date for applications is 14th May 2015.**

Teaching Tip of the Month

With the upcoming **Focus on Blended Learning**, and the redevelopment of the LTTC's own online resource packs over the coming months, this issue we are highlighting **technology-enhanced learning.**

The Guardian Higher Education Network Blog recently put together **20 tips and resources for using learning technology in higher education**, with guest panellists from Cornell, Bath University, MIT and Glasgow Caledonia, amongst others. Check out what they had to say online.

CONTACT US!

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