Fall Perspectives on Teaching Conference

Thursday, August 30, 2018

Social Science Centre, Room 2050

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Opening Remarks

Andrew Hrymak, Provost & Vice-President (Academic)
Nanda Dimitrov, Director, Centre for Teaching and Learning

9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Keynote Session

Valuing Teaching: What Matters Most?
Peter Felten (Elon University)

In our book *The Undergraduate Experience* (Jossey-Bass, 2016), my co-authors and I identified six core themes that matter most for student success: learning, relationships, expectations, alignment, improvement, and leadership. This interactive keynote will explore why these themes are critically important not only for students but also for instructors and for institutional culture. Together we will critically consider what each of us can do, no matter what our context and role, to cultivate a generative culture of learning and teaching.

Dr. Peter Felten is a Professor of History, Assistant Provost for Teaching and Learning, and Executive Director of the Center for Engaged Learning at Elon University. His books include the co-authored volumes: *The Undergraduate Experience: Focusing Institutions on What Matters Most*; *Transforming Students: Fulfilling the Promise of Higher Education*; *Engaging Students as Partners in Learning and Teaching*; *Transformative Conversations*; and the co-edited book *Intersectionality in Action*. He has served as president of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (2016-17) and also of the POD Network (2010-2011), the U.S. professional society for educational developers. He is co-editor of the *International Journal for Academic Development* and a fellow of the John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education.

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Refreshment Break

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions A

A – 1 (SSC 2050)
Experiential Learning Across the Disciplines
Stephanie Hayne Beatty and Heather Wakely (Student Success Centre)
Neil Banerjee (Earth Sciences)
Radoslav Dimitrov (Political Science)
Sarah McLean (Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry)
Experiential learning is an approach used to intentionally connect learners with practical learning experiences that help them deepen their disciplinary knowledge and develop transferable skills through authentic and focused reflection. Join us to learn about the wide range of in-class and off-campus experiential learning activities used by faculty colleagues across campus, such as simulations, community engaged learning opportunities, internships, field experiences, and research or creative activities. Hear about the ways in which thoughtfully designed experiential learning opportunities allow students to clarify their interests, explore careers in their discipline, and apply what they learn throughout their degrees at Western. Consider how you can embed experiential learning in your teaching, and contribute to these outcomes for students in your discipline.

A – 2 (SSC 2036)
Vocal Health: Using and Protecting Our Voices
Ted Baerg (Music Performance Studies)
For many of us, our voice is the number one instrument that we use in the classroom. However, we don't always take care of our voices to avoid damage. In this session, Ted will discuss proper use of the voice and tips for protecting it. He will draw on his experience both on the stage (with international experience in acting, opera and musical theatre) and in the classroom as he guides the participants through a series of vocal exercises as well as suggestions for dealing with vocal fatigue and other related issues.

A – 3 (SSC 2032)
Making Learning Visible with ePortfolios
Angela Borchert (Modern Languages and Literatures)
Nicole Campbell (Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry)
Aleksandra Zecevic (Health Studies)
In this panel presentation, three colleagues will share their experiences of incorporating ePortfolios into their course design and teaching. The discussion aims to provide insights for practice and highlight future aspirations – exploring opportunities and challenges, lessons learned from trial and error, common principles for teaching with ePortfolios, and future directions for ePortfolio use on campus.

12:45 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. Brown Bag Lunch Session

(SSC 2028)
What in the World is Lynda.com?
Dan Sich (Western Libraries)
Lynda.com is an online learning platform that offers more than 5,000 on-demand courses to help build professional skills. Thanks to the Ontario government and eCampusOntario, all current students, staff and faculty members have free, unlimited access to Lynda.com until September 2020. You are invited to bring your lunch and join Dan Sich, Teaching and Learning Librarian, E-Learning, to discuss Lynda.com's subject coverage, reliability, and usefulness. What opportunities might there be to use Lynda.com yourself or recommend it to students? Find more information at
http://lynda.uwo.ca

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Concurrent Sessions B

B – 1 (SSC 2050)
Indigeneity in the Academy: Teaching and Learning at the Cultural Interface
Candace Brunette-Debassige, Special Advisor to the Provost (Indigenous Initiatives)
Against the backdrop of growing calls to Indigenize universities, Indigenous students and curriculum are on the rise, bringing with them unique perspectives, identities and ways of knowing to the forefront. At the same time, Indigenous students continue to face many systemic barriers. This session will identify some of these systemic issues, while highlighting the university as a contact zone for the cultural interface; that is, as places wherein complex interactions between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and ways of knowing, being and doing unfold. During the workshop, participants will be guided through case studies that draw from Western's newly developed *Guide for Working with Indigenous Students.*

B – 2 (SSC 2036)
Teaching Graduate Students
Karyn Olsen (Centre for Teaching and Learning)
Join this session to discuss successful approaches to running a graduate seminar course. *What is the most effective format? How do you establish learning goals? What types of activities can be integrated and which ones will have the highest impact? What can I do as the professor to best support graduate student learning?* This workshop will answer these questions by drawing on faculty experiences and evidence-based practices found in the teaching and learning literature. Karyn will also share comments from Western graduate students on what works (and what does not) when it comes to graduate coursework.

B – 3 (SSC 2032)

Getting Awesome: Empowering Learners Using Powtoon Video Creation

Ana Garcia-Allen (Modern Languages and Literatures)

Jane Winkler (WTS - eLearning Technologies)

In this session we will describe the design and production of a series of short videos using Powtoon. The purpose of these videos is to empower students in the language classroom. While our videos were created specifically for Spanish language learners, the approach is transferable to any other subject. The videos introduce students to all the tools they need to successfully learn the target language, and most importantly, to learn in the best possible way. We will also describe the collaborative project between the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and the ITRC for the video creation process.

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Refreshment Break

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions C

C – 1 (SSC 2050)

Engaging Students in Lecture Classes

Moderator: Michael Atkinson (Psychology)

Panelists:

Rob Cockcroft (Physics and Astronomy/Western's Integrated Science Program)

M. J. Kidnie (English)

Nigmendra Narain (Political Science)

Lecturing is one of the oldest, and likely still the most commonly used, of the teaching methods. Although research suggests that lecturing may not always be the best teaching method for student learning, it has definite advantages. Please join us for this interactive session, in which our panelists will explain what they do to engage their students when lecturing, as well as describe the preparation required, the challenges raised, and the impact on student learning. Please bring your questions and a willingness to share what you do to engage your students when lecturing.

C – 2 (SSC 2036)

Lessons from Early Adopters: Digital Badging at Western

Aaron Price (Mechanical and Materials Engineering)

Tom Rochfort (Ivey Business School)

Tanya Filipcic (Continuing Studies)

Julie Kaiser (School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies)

Beth Hundey (Centre for Teaching and Learning)

Hear from Western faculty and staff who have used digital badges to recognize learner achievement in credit, non-credit and professional development initiatives. Digital badges—a representation of a skill, learning achievements or experience—are created, awarded and shared online. Western faculty and staff have been piloting different use cases for digital badges, with the Centre for Teaching and Learning coordinating a funded pilot of a badging platform. While a promising model for recognizing and communicating outcomes of learning, badging is still in its infancy. This session promises to share lessons about what has (and has not) worked in these early trials.

Registration is free. Please register at teaching.uwo.ca

Refreshments will be available at 8:45 a.m. and during the 10:30 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. breaks.

Note: the keynote will be video-recorded and made available on the CTL website.

Western Centre for Teaching and Learning