

Teaching and Learning Commons NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM THE T&L COMMONS AVPTL



The approach of fall and a new academic year always prompts me to reflect on the previous year and consider what is on the agenda for the coming year. Finally, this year feels like we have reached a post-pandemic “new normal” where classes will go ahead in their planned delivery model; and we are reflecting on what we learned and how to support educational spaces that meet the needs of future learners. I know I had my first “real” vacation in quite some time and hope that you too had time to rest, play and connect with the people most important to you.

For the Teaching and Learning Commons last year was full of transition, temporary roles and a state of flux. We used this as an opportunity to develop our team, attend professional development and prepare ourselves to support you going forward. We also brought some key projects to fruition, enhanced classroom technology in Fir 136, upgraded badging capabilities, enterprise license for Padlet, and many ePortfolio projects with the launch of our ePortfolio champions program.

The faculty survey last winter has provided us with some key insights about how to continue supporting you in your teaching practice. We noted that awareness of OER supports, and open pedagogy have decreased, to this end we have initiated a student OE ambassador pilot and are planning some open pedagogy PD - stay tuned for these learning opportunities or contact open@kpu.ca. We also established baseline interest and knowledge of ePortfolios practices and will continue to draw attention to this powerful practice in the coming year, if your department would like to engage in a discussion about ePortfolios can benefit your learners' email tlcommons@kpu.ca. More than 85% of respondents want online asynchronous PD and the Foundations of Teaching Excellence professional development courses are an excellent place to start. There continues to be high interest in PD before, during and after department meetings and our team will be connecting with Department Chairs to support this – please let your Chair know what topics you would be interested in. We also noted interest in some new PD topics – Inquiry Based Learning, Creation of educational media, Teaching through research, designing blended learning and developing digital literacy and we are working hard to develop these for you.....stay tuned!

As we begin this academic year, we will launch our new branding tagline “Active Intentional Partnering” as we are committed to a partner approach in our work with the academic and support areas across KPU. As a teaching intensive institution, all things teaching and learning should be considerations of our business decisions and the strengths of our team to design learning, support change and advocate for modern learning environments are key components of our work. We look forward to continued partnership with each of you.

All the best to you for the coming academic year!

Dr. Leeann Waddington

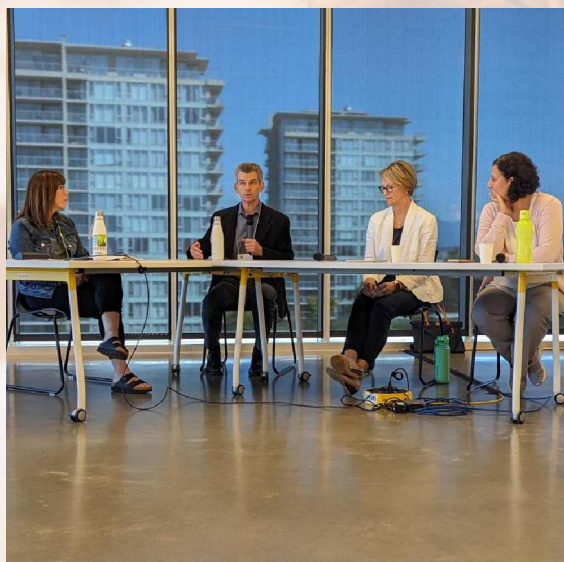
We would like to acknowledge our appreciation of being able to work, study and live on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Coast Salish peoples, including those of the Kwantlen First Nation, who graciously bestowed their name on this university.



AAEEBL CONFERENCE

KPU cohosted the [AAEEBL](#) Annual General Meeting on the Richmond campus. 75 participants from North America and the UK gathered to share best practices. The theme was “ePortfolio Learning in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Fostering Authentic Assessment Through Inclusive Pedagogies and Design Justice.”

KPU’s ePortfolio Champions were well represented at both the online and in-person events and included: Lisa Gedak, Gillian Sudlow, Jovita Vytasek, Ann-Marie McLellan, Ying Ma, Simon Driver, Leeann Waddington, and Nishan Perera.



team UPDATES

- Nabeel Anjum joins us as a Teaching & Learning Strategist
- Daniel Benzimra joins us as a Teaching & Learning Strategist
- Rajmale Kaur joins us as a Learning Technology Support Analyst
- Sarah Dunn joins us as the TL Commons Divisional Business Manager

ePortfolio MATTERS @KPU

ePortfolio Champions Program

- We are excited to start work supporting our Fall 2023 ePortfolio Champions. To learn more about the Teaching and Learning Commons ePortfolio Champions program and the varied ePortfolio initiatives the Commons experts are supporting across KPU, explore the [Champions Program](#) tab on the [ePortfolio Matters @KPU website](#).

ePortfolio Matters@ KPU Community of Practice Returns Fall 2023

- Join other educators (eportfolio experts and muddlers) to share ideas and resources, work through challenges, build skills, and connect with PebblePad specialists.
- This will be a flexible Community of Practice that will support you regardless of where you are in your eportfolio learning – all are welcome!

upcoming EVENTS

Information table at your campus!

Faculty, stop by for a sweet treat at your campus! The T&L Commons team will be visiting KPU campuses. We're here to provide information about all things T&L.

SCHEDULE

- Cloverdale, Tues., Sept. 12, 2-3:30PM, inside the main entrance
- Richmond, Wed., Sept. 13, 11AM-2PM next to library
- Surrey, Thurs., Sept 14, 11AM-2PM, main courtyard as well as Spruce Atrium
- Langley, Fri., Sept. 15, 11AM-2PM, main courtyard outside of bookstore

Partner Spotlight, Tues., Oct. 24, 11:30AM-1:30PM, Spruce Atrium

At Teaching & Learning, we build connections through active intentional partnering to advance the goals of teaching excellence. We are hosting a 3rd Partner Spotlight to shine a light on some of the special projects from these connections, and to showcase how teaching excellence is supported through an extensive network of partnerships that connect us together. This is a lunch and learn event to highlight their transformative impact both within and beyond the KPU classroom. Attend all or part of the event. [REGISTER HERE](#)

PechaKucha Innovation Sharing Session, Wed., Nov. 15, 4-6PM, Grassroots Cafe

We are thrilled to bring back our PechaKucha Innovation Sharing Session for another round! Join us as we celebrate the work of Teaching & Learning grant recipients in a storytelling format, showcasing a diverse range of projects from the Teaching & Learning Innovation Fund (TLIF), Open Educational Resources (OER) Grant, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) Open Pedagogy Fellowships. [REGISTER HERE](#)

learning OPPORTUNITIES



What is Open? - Thurs., Sept 7, 12:30-1:00PM [Register Here](#)

Finding ZTC Resources - Wed., Sept 13, 12:30-1:30PM [Register Here](#)

What's New with WordPress 6.2 - Mon., Sept 25, 12:00-1:00PM [Register Here](#)



Decoding the disciplines: Helping students move beyond learning bottlenecks Wed., Oct 4, 10:30AM-12:00PM [Register Here](#)

What is Open? OERS - Wed., Oct 4, 12:30-1:00PM [Register Here](#)

Assessment Design and Moodle Gradebook Setup Thurs., Oct 12, 9:00AM-12:00PM [Register Here](#)

Fostering a Compassionate Community with Mindfulness Mon., Oct 16, 10:00AM-12:00PM [Register here](#)

Design for Accessibility - Tues., Oct 17, 12:00-1:00PM [Register Here](#)

Empowering Teaching Excellence: Exploring KPU's Ed Media Tools and Spaces for Faculty and Instructional Staff Thurs., Oct 19, 12:00-1:00PM [Register Here](#)

Learning Outcomes Best Practices Fri., Oct 20, 10:00AM-12:30PM [Register Here](#)

Intro to ePortfolios - Fridays, Oct 20, 27, Nov 3, 1:00PM-2:30PM (3 part series) [Register Here](#)

For more information as well as a complete list of our Fall Workshop offerings please visit the [TL Events Page](#)



WordPress 6.3.1 is here!

We are excited to announce that KPU WordPress has been upgraded to version 6.3.1, bringing new functionality and navigation to creating WordPress sites, empowering faculty and students in your content creation journey.

[Read the full announcement here!](#)

purpose STATEMENT

Through active intentional partnering, the Teaching & Learning Commons provides pedagogical leadership that is grounded in community, ethics, creativity, and care.

Connect with us!

tlcommons@kpu.ca kpu.ca/teaching-and-learning



**ACTIVE
INTENTIONAL
PARTNERING**