

Teaching & Learning Commons

NEWSLETTER

May 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE T&L COMMONS AVPTL, DR. LEEANN WADDINGTON



[In my first message as pro tem AVPTL](#) last summer, I talked about the role of relationships and community in accomplishing our work in the Teaching and Learning commons. To that end, I am pleased to roll out a key partners outreach program in order to facilitate and strengthen relationships with chairs and departments across the university. Teaching excellence is context specific, and we recognize the need to customize supports and initiatives for your department.

Each department will be assigned a Teaching and Learning Commons Strategist, who will reach out to the Chair once per semester to communicate key items and offer opportunities for partnership. They will serve as a liaison

to ensure that you get what you need, within the confines of our operational limitations. We hope this line of communication will support you to plan and engage in professional development as a department, and to allow us to engage in more dialogue about the complex challenges facing higher education.

As we continue to seek new and meaningful ways to partner, we welcome your feedback. On May 5, we hosted a Think Tank on Generative AI. This event brought together our team and 40 faculty participants with an external facilitator to learn, dialogue and experiment with ChatGPT. It was a wonderful dialogue where participants grappled with the complexities surrounding this technology and its potential applications and challenges for teaching and learning. The feedback on this approach was resoundingly positive, so watch for future Think Tanks – let us know if you have a topic idea for this approach.

As the days grow warmer and longer, I hope everyone finds more time for rest, reflection and rejuvenation enjoying the beautiful Coast Salish lands we are so privileged to inhabit.

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.



LEARN TECH BITS & BYTES

PADLET

In response to faculty requests, we have launched a new learning technology tool, Padlet, to support engagement and collaboration in learning environments.

What is Padlet?

Padlet is a versatile and user-friendly virtual bulletin board that supports engagement by providing a live space for Q&A, brainstorming, reflection, surveys and discussion as an extension of their learning environment.

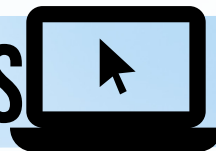
Why Padlet?

There are many reasons why faculty might want to use Padlet:

- Simple technology to incorporate if looking for more tech integration in courses
- Build in more opportunities for feedback and formative assessment
- Be more inclusive
- Accommodates multiple ways of knowing and being, and diverse representations of learning
- Create and sustain classroom community
- Inform lesson planning and reflective actions for teaching practice
- Support peer review and collaboration

[READ THE FULL ANNOUNCEMENT HERE](#)

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Browse our summer workshops. To register and read workshop descriptions, visit [TLEvents.kpu.ca](https://tlevts.kpu.ca)

- **Developing Digital Literacy**
May 18, 10:00AM-12:00PM, online, synchronous
- **Best Information Management Practices in Teaching Role**
June 6, 12:00-1:00PM, online, synchronous
also July 11, 12:00-1:00PM, online, synchronous
- **Course Learning Outcomes**
June 9, 10:00AM-12:00PM, in person, room Arbutus 2410 (2nd floor library)
- **Introduction to ePortfolios**
3-part series: August 18, 25, and September 1, 1:00-2:15PM, online, synchronous
- **Course Design Reflection**
Launching August 21, online, asynchronous
- **Padlet Training**
August 22, 11:00AM-12:00PM, online, synchronous

[REGISTER HERE](#)

SUPPORTING OUR FACULTY PARTNERS

2023 TEACHING & LEARNING INNOVATION FUND RECIPIENTS



Shayna Minosky

Increasing peer rapport and teamwork: Comparing preferred engagement and relationship-building strategies in online and in-person classrooms



Joyce MacKenzie, Joan Boyce, Baljit Khun-Khun
KPU BSN Strengthening our Relations with Kwantlen First Nation



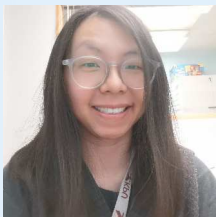
Cheryl Burnstein

Launching the 'Talking Circle for Students'- A monthly drop-in forum using Mindful Self-Compassion Skills, to help nursing students manage anxiety associated with learning to be a nurse



Christina Page and Jeannette Paschen

Learning how to Write in Business: An Evaluation of Embedded Professional Writing Strategies in a First-Year Business Course



Ivy Ng and Sarah Greer

Implementing the pedagogical uses of virtual reality with hands-on labs

2023 UNSDG OPEN PEDAGOGY FELLOWS



Carroll Boydell

An instructor in the Department of Criminology, Carroll teaches courses about psychological criminology and methods of research, with a particular passion for helping students to write and think critically.



Tara Immell

Tara focuses on teaching financial and environmental risk management at KPU who also consults for an engineering firm in the field of solid waste management. Whether teaching or consulting, Tara is passionate about raising everyone's awareness of how individual choices impact climate change.



Andreas Schwartz

Andreas is an innovative leader skilled in strategy development, campaign execution, cross-functional team development in a diverse number of industries and business models.

Association for Authentic,
Experiential, and Evidence-
Based Learning

AAEEBL

Annual Meeting 2023

Online: July 13–14

In-Person: July 19–21

KPU Richmond campus

aaeebl.org

EPORTFOLIO LEARNING IN THE AGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: FOSTERING AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE PEDAGOGIES AND DESIGN JUSTICE

This event is taking place at the KPU Richmond campus and is free for KPU faculty and administration to attend. Registration information to follow soon.

Look for it in our next newsletter!

ONLINE LEARNING CONSORTIUM CONFERENCE 2023



The TL Strategists and leaders attended the Online Learning Consortium conference in April. As an institutional member, we have access to many resources, can apply for grant funding and support with various initiatives related to technology enhanced learning (all modes from classroom to fully online are included in this). This is a great conference with lots of variety in the presentations.

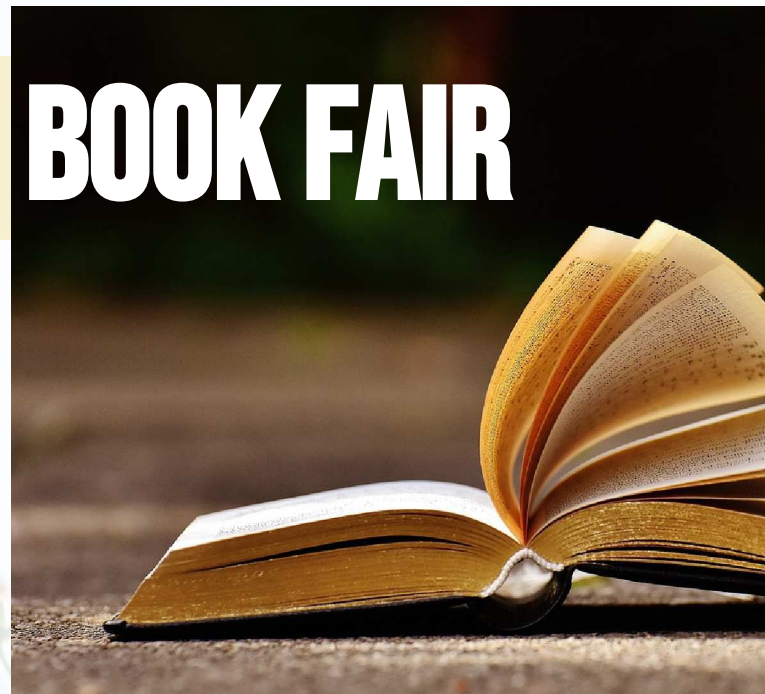
[Online Learning Consortium \(OLC\) - Enhancing Remote Learning.](#)

OPEN ED BOOK FAIR

Are you a fan of free textbooks?

Every year, KPU faculty are creating and publishing open textbooks to use in their classrooms. Come see what our faculty have created in the past year as well as a sneak peek at some of the new ones that are in the works.

May 31, 2023, 12:00-2:00PM
Spruce Atrium - KPU Surrey campus
For more information, email open@kpu.ca



NEW COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE ECOLOGICAL PLACE-BASED EDUCATION FOR ALL

Ready to take your teaching and learning outdoors? Curious about place-based education? Wondering how your work at KPU could fit into this practice? Join our Community of Practice, open to faculty, staff and students. Learn how to facilitate ecological place-based education remotely. Cultivate clear intentions and a reciprocity lens to learning on and with the land. Explore place-based learning ideas at multiple campuses, including Richmond (KPU Farm), Langley (Logan Creek) and Surrey (Westerman property and nearby Cougar Creek).

[Learn more about it here!](#)

purpose STATEMENT

The Teaching & Learning Commons provides pedagogical leadership that is grounded in community, ethics, creativity, and care.

READ OUR LATEST BLOG!

Building-in Student Buy-in:
Disposable vs Renewable
Assignments
by Open Education Strategist,
Amanda Grey

[Read it here!](#)

