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Learning and Teaching Office

Together, achieving excellence in learning and teaching



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME
AUSTRALIA

Fremantle

Broome

Sydney

Bulletin – May 2020

We are grateful for your feedback about the different types of resources needed to help you move to online instruction. The mission of the LTO remains the same - to support the academic community in its quest to sustain and enhance high quality teaching across Notre Dame.

In this Bulletin we celebrate the achievements of some outstanding staff, provide an update of what is new in our learning and teaching resources portfolio, and highlight the upcoming Educator Scholar Conference.

We've really enjoyed engaging with many of you at our recent webinars. Please let us know if there are specific topics you would like to see future webinars address. Indeed, please contact us for any of your learning and teaching needs.



PETLS Call for Nominations is Open

The call for nominations for the VC Promoting Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Supervision (PETLS) Awards is now open!

Notre Dame's students recognise the high quality of our teaching, as do our colleagues and the wider University community. The annual Teaching, Learning and Supervision Awards recognise individuals and teams who make a substantial contribution to enhancing the quality of learning and teaching at the University.

While our survey to all staff in 2019 told us that some people feel reticent to be acknowledged, to be celebrated through an Award is one very genuine means of publicly celebrating our staff.

Nominations are open to staff and students now so that staff working with students in the first half of the year are duly remembered. Nominations will also be open in the second half of the year

Please consider putting forward a nomination or nominating a colleague or a team today.

All Academic (including Sessional) and General staff are eligible for the awards. Nominations can be made in two ways:

1. By recommendation from students, staff or colleagues

- Recommend a staff member now by going to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PETLSnominations> no later than **13 November 2020**.
- Staff who receive a recommendation are free to accept, defer or decline the invitation to proceed with their nomination.

2. By self-nominating as an individual or a team

All interested staff (whether they have been recommended by others or are nominating themselves or their team) need to **complete the nomination form prior to submitting their Award application**.

Nomination forms need to be signed by the relevant Dean or equivalent and submitted to lto@nd.edu.au no later than **11 December 2020**.

More information is available from the [Awards and Grants website](#)

Technology Enhanced Learning: Across the University

The LTO has been in regular contact with the '*Online Teaching Champions*', across the University. There have been two standout positives in their responses. The first is an undeniable sense of pride in how academics and their Schools have risen to the challenge of supercharging their IT skills and putting their courses online in such a short time. The second is the response from the students. Many Schools have undertaken a 'pulse check' to find out how their students are coping and engaging with the courses. In doing so, they have found that students have largely responded positively to the move online, and have acknowledged the care their educators have taken in making this shift so that learning has been able to continue.

Challenges have also been identified by academics and the LTO has outlined ways of assisting with some of these challenges.

Some of these issues are practice based, for example, how to increase student engagement; run practical workshops such as theatre or clinical skills; design assessments that are authentic and that students will engage in ethically and with integrity. Given the need to move learning online quickly and the introduction of new technologies, there have also been reports on the emotional toll this very rapid change has taken. Some academics have shared that they feel rushed and anxious and even those who don't, talk of missing teaching the way that they use to. These sentiments are not surprising and it is important that we acknowledge them and support each other as much as possible.

Where to from here to assist with some of these challenges?

While not a criticism it is important to acknowledge that there is still much we need to learn and do.

Most of us are at *Stage One* where we have ensured that our courses are online and that they adhere to [minimum presence requirements](#). While this keeps instruction going, some students say it is a lot is busy work [EduResearch Matters](#).

While we still don't know what semester two will look like, now is the time to be heading towards *Stage Two*. This means going beyond minimum presence to engage students in rich, interactive learning experiences. The LTO has created new resources (see below) to assist you in this. Also keep a look out for our webinars and *Spotlight* (email despatch) that will provide you with strategies and direct you to specific eResources.

At *Stage Three* you will have expertise in designing and delivering blended learning experiences to diverse student cohorts that are underpinned by good evidenced based pedagogy. Again look at the support being offered by the LTO over the coming weeks.

Higher Education Association (HEA) Fellows

To be recognised as an HEA Fellow means that one has received global standing amongst a community of educators in higher education. There are four categories of fellowship that acknowledge that the journey of an educator is along a continuum beginning at those who have just begun teaching (e.g., PhD candidates, sessional academics and Librarians through to those who are leaders across their School or institution). No matter the category, educators must demonstrates a personal commitment to professionalism in learning and teaching. You can find out more about the fellowship and evaluate what category is appropriate for you by using the [Fellowship Category Tool](#). You can also send the LTO an email lto@nd.edu.au.

Right now please join us in congratulating our recent HEA Fellows

Associate Professor Dee O'Connor from the School of Education in Fremantle was awarded a Higher Education Academy Senior Fellowship (SFHEA).



This recognizes Dee's contribution to high quality student learning and her impact and influence on colleagues.



Professor Gerard Ryan from the School of Law in Sydney was awarded a Higher Education Academy Fellowship (FHEA).

This recognizes Gerard's contribution to high quality student learning, supporting learners and effective approaches to learning and teaching.

To see our growing list of Fellows of the Higher Education Academy at Notre Dame.

Technology Enhanced Learning: New Resources

To assist academics on their journey identified above as well as specifically responding to the needs conveyed by the *Online Champions* we have recently created the following:

- [considerations and protocols for final exams](#) (*this link will take you to our LT1004 BlackBoard Site*)
- an [online etiquette guide for students](#)
- [practice guides](#) on authentic assessment and the flipped classroom approach
- more materials on some useful external tools, such as how to get started with *Teams* (an excellent collaboration tool for staff, please see the [introductory video](#))
- how to embed a 'live' [Google doc into BlackBoard](#) (to allow your students to collaborate on a shared document)
- how to utilise [closed captions in YouTube](#) and download an automatically generated transcript of your video

- how to create your first [Twitter account](#) and [embed it](#) in BlackBoard

Resources under construction are related to making online teaching more engaging:

- translating a course to BlackBoard so it is easy to navigate
- how to use Discussion Boards effectively
- making a BlackBoard course look and feel more appealing
- how to run a typical 'practical' course online

Please see our full [catalogue](#) of resources and let us know if there are others that you would like.

Did you know?

Epigeum and BlackBoard are currently offering free online courses. The topics include teaching online, blended learning, online course design and online course facilitation (see [Free Courses/Resources](#) section of the LTO BlackBoard site LT1004 for further details on syllabus and enrolment).

Note: *The software used for this notice, makes links to documents within Notre Dame's firewall, appear with a message "This link downloads a potentially harmful file" and will ask you to accept and download at your own risk. Do not worry about this message, it is completely safe to do so.*



20:20 Vision for Quality Learning and Teaching

Sydney
28th September

Fremantle 2nd October

The LTO is once again hosting its annual Conference. Joining us this year as the keynote speaker is Associate Professor Cath Ellis.

Cath was recognized as one of Times Higher Education's People of the Year for her leadership in the field of academic integrity. She is the Associate Dean (Education) in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at UNSW.

As a leader in the field of academic integrity and with unparalleled expertise in the area, Cath has a particular interest in contract cheating.



The conference focus is on a '20:20 Vision for Quality Learning and Teaching in Higher Education' and will cover three themes:

Integrity: SoTL that enhances academic integrity;

Excellence: SoTL that demonstrates a commitment to excellence in learning and teaching;

Design principles: SoTL that demonstrates the creation of effective learning environments, particularly new online spaces.

We invite all staff to submit a short presentation addressing the conference focus and responding to one of the themes, as it relates to student learning in higher education.

Key dates:

4 May – Call for presentation abstracts (300 words)

30 July – Call closes (including submissions for the DVCA SoTL paper prize)

21 August – Presentation sessions confirmed

Graduate Certificate in Learning
and Teaching for Higher
Education

Graduate Diploma of Learning
and Teaching in Higher
Education



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Graduate Diploma of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education

Embrace life-long learning and feed your passion as an educator. In addition to the Graduate Certificate, we now offer a ***Graduate Diploma of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education***. The program has been created so that you can build on the four courses of the Graduate Certificate by adding four more courses that will enhance your knowledge of the contemporary adult learner. Some of these courses allow you to continue your studies with the Master's by coursework or the proposed Masters by research. The Diploma provides the skills to lead academic colleagues, embed approaches to reconciliation and well-being into your practice, and to create pedagogical research projects ... to find out more, contact the LTO at LTO@nd.edu.au

Short Courses

We are pleased to be able to offer the Graduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching for Higher Education as a 'short course', that is, as part of the Government's Higher Education Relief package. If you know someone whose career has been affected as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and they might be interested in pursuing a career as a teaching academic, please pass these details on to them. [Click here](#) to find out more details about all short courses on offer.

LTO News and Events

For higher education updates, conferences and other news items, visit the [LTO News and Events](#) website regularly to keep informed.

Stay connected with the LTO

If you can't see it here, but would like some more support or just want to give feedback on our bulletin, please let us know.

Feedback



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