

# Teaching Commons News

## Spring is coming

It seems that the spring is slowly coming to campus after a harsh long winter. To celebrate, this April, the Teaching Commons' new website has gone live! We have several exciting events both for York colleagues and the wider community. We are proud to say that York will host the Educational Developer Caucus (EDC) Institute, a Canada-wide 3-day development opportunity for educational developers, in mid-April. We are preparing for the month-long May celebration of teaching and learning by getting ready for the 2015 Teaching in Focus (TIF) Conference and the STAY (Supporting Teaching at York) Symposium. We continue with our support of projects funded by the Ontario Online Initiative and looking forward to working with the successful Academic innovation Fund (AIF) proposers.

## New TC website



We are pleased to announce the launch of our new website. The website is still located at <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/> with an updated user-friendly navigation. We will be continuing improving the new website. For any comments and suggestions, please contact us [teaching@yorku.ca](mailto:teaching@yorku.ca).

## Register for 2015 TIF conference

On May 21<sup>st</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will have a two-day Teaching in Focus conference to celebrate teaching and learning at York. We have an extensive schedule of sessions.

- The program is available at <http://tinyurl.com/TIF052015-schedule>.

We have an exciting program and limited seats available. To secure a place, register at your earliest convenience at: <http://tinyurl.com/tif2015-register>.

**We are still inviting proposals for poster presentations.** Please contact Dr. Yelin Su at [ysu@yorku.ca](mailto:ysu@yorku.ca) to send your proposal.

## Remediation Support

TC Remediation Options:  
<http://tinyurl.com/remediation-options>

Approach to Planning  
Content:

<http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/?p=21083>

Contact us [teaching@yorku](mailto:teaching@yorku)  
to arrange supports for your unit

## April Workshop Highlights

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### Experiential Education in the Classroom

In this session you will be introduced to the theory and practice of experiential education; consider how to evaluate experiential learning; and design appropriate and innovative teaching and assessment activities; and create a course 'map' that includes EE components.

Time: Thursday, April 23, 2015 from 9:30am-12:30pm.

Venue: TEL 1014

Registration: <http://tinyurl.com/EE0415-register>

### **New!** Inclusive Curriculum Design workshop

Offered in collaboration with the Centre for Human Rights, this interactive session focuses on considerations for pedagogic practice as the student body becomes more diverse. We will consider implications for inclusion and exclusion, taking into account issues of diversity, inequality and difference. Participants will get practical advice on how to design and deliver curricula based on principles of Universal Design.

Time: Thursday, April 30, 2015 from 9:30am-11:30am.

Venue: TEL 1014

Registration: <http://tinyurl.com/ICD-register>

## Teaching Bites: Call for volunteers!

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The Teaching Commons is launching a new teaching series and is seeking the involvement of faculty members. Teaching Bites is a monthly event starting in April during which instructors talk about an aspect of their teaching and encourage attendees to ask questions and share their own experience. The goal of this series is to link teaching and learning principles to practice as experienced by York instructors. If you wish to participate as a presenter, contact Dr Mandy Frake-Mistak at [mfmistak@yorku.ca](mailto:mfmistak@yorku.ca).

This newsletter is available as a .pdf at <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/tnewsletter/>

Look out for the  
new eLearning course...

Coming soon!

### Online Learning and Flexibility

Dr. Stephen Murgatroyd came to Glendon College on March 30 to give a talk on Improving the Quality of and Taking up the Opportunities for Online Learning. The recorded session is now available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xOmwkW8TW0o>

### Instructional Skills Workshop

The ISW workshop continues to be popular with experienced and novice instructors alike. While the April ISW is full, we have multiple other opportunities for instructors to take part. You can put your name in the waiting list (<http://tinyurl.com/nnyy65r>) for April in case of a cancellation or register for our June ISW (<http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/?p=19810>).