

# Teaching Commons News

## Happy New Year!



Welcome back after the holidays! We are pleased to offer some new events at the TC such as the Teaching Commons knit-in while we continue to offer popular workshops and programs such as *Putting Together Your Teaching Dossier*, *Introduction to Experiential Education* and *Teaching Wheels*. Note a few spaces are still available for the February 4th and 11<sup>th</sup> eLearning@York offering but they are quickly disappearing.

## Combining Research and Teaching!

Would you like to add to your publications, engage in some intriguing research and invigorate your teaching? Well here is your opportunity to do all three!

At the annual teaching and learning conference, **TIF (Teaching in Focus)** this year we will be joined by two leaders in the field of research into teaching and student engagement. **Professor Nancy Chick** from Calgary and **Dr Karin Crawford** from Lincoln University in the UK will provide stimulating keynotes. On the first day - May 19th - participants will be able to indicate their interest in teaching related research topics and or commit to involving undergraduate students in research. On the second day May 20th we will hear from colleagues across York about the innovations they have made to their teaching.

Registrations will be open later in the year once we have the final schedule. For now, please save the date – **May 19 and May 20**.

## Upcoming events at the TC

**Let's TaLC** – January 26, 2016 – Now What? Developing a SoTL Question  
Jan 26 @ 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Registration  
<http://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=307530>



### Teaching Commons Knit-in reminder

We invite you to join a knitting circle in the TC lounge on **Wednesday lunchtimes** anytime between **12 and 2** throughout January and February, even if you can't knit. Please join us for talks about teaching and learning as we create warm toques and scarves for Syrian refugees. Please bring your own needles and yarn.



### Putting Together Your Teaching Dossier – January 14, 10:00 – 12:00

The teaching dossier or teaching portfolio is a condensed reflection of your teaching philosophy and accomplishments. It serves as a tool that will provide evidence of your teaching quality and effectiveness. This interactive workshop will provide you with the tools to establish, recognize, and reflect upon your own teaching practices.

Registration:  
<http://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=307902>

## Webinar – January 28 10:00 – 11:00



### Make your lecture class interactive with technology

In this session, we will discuss a few useful tools to make the lecture more participatory and interactive.

Facilitators: Dr. Yelin Su, Educational Developer  
Dr. Mandy Frake-Mistak, Educational Developer

Registration:

<http://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=312658>

## eLearning 2016 Course offerings

### eLearning@York: Designing fully online instructions

- Offering 1: Thursday, February 4, 1.00-4.15 in TEL 1014 & Thursday, February 11, 1.00-4.15 in TEL 1014
- Offering 2: Tuesday, April 5, 9.15-12.30 in TEL 1014 & Tuesday, April 12, 9.15-12.30 in TEL 1014

### eLearning@York: Designing blended online instructions

- Offering 1: Designing blended instructions: Monday, February 22, 1-4.15 in TEL 1009 & Monday, February 29, 1-4.15 in TEL 1009
- Offering 2: Designing blended instructions: Thursday, April 14, 9.15-12.30 in TEL 1014 & Thursday, April 21, 9.15-12.30 in TEL 1014

To enroll in Winter 2016 eLearning@York course sessions, please fill in the form:

<http://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=309526>

## Teaching Commons Blog



Read the latest TC Blog! Each week a different member of the York teaching community contributes a short piece, on a range of topics related to teaching and learning. Readers may join the debate by adding their comments. To see the full list visit: <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/teaching-commons-blog-teaching-and-learning-at-york/> We welcome contributors – interested? Email [cpopovic@yorku.ca](mailto:cpopovic@yorku.ca).

## News from the Library

York University Libraries' fourth annual multidisciplinary **Undergraduate Research Fair** ([researchfair.info.yorku.ca](http://researchfair.info.yorku.ca)), co-sponsored by the Libraries and **Office of the Vice President Research & Innovation**, will take place on **Wednesday, Feb. 24th, 2016** in the Scott Library Collaboratory. Intended to showcase undergraduate student researchers and their work, the Fair offers a forum for students to share their research outside the classroom in a friendly, cross-curricular environment.

## Teaching Wheels lunch January 20 or January 21

The Teaching Wheels program is designed to support classroom practice by building community through a non-evaluative process of classroom observation and shared reflection. The focus is what you as a visitor learn from observing your Wheel partners, not on giving feedback to improve their teaching. For more information visit the following link <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/for-cds/workshops-and-courses-for-cds/events-2/teaching-wheels-teaching-squares/>

## Experiential Education January 25, 9:30-12:30

This workshop is designed to support faculty who wish to learn about experiential education (EE) to incorporate it in their teaching, either in the classroom or in the community. For more information visit the following link <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/for-cds/workshops-and-courses-for-cds/workshops/ee-york-course/#Bootcamp>

**Instructors - please encourage students of particularly notable papers you received in 2015 to apply to the Fair by January 21, 2016.** Student-participants in last year's Fair noted that encouragement from faculty members was an important factor in motivating them to participate in the Fair, and they found the experience very rewarding.

Undergraduate students are invited to submit an application here:

[researchfair.info.yorku.ca](http://researchfair.info.yorku.ca)

Applicants write an abstract outlining their best research paper or project submitted for a York undergraduate course in the 2015 calendar



year, and append a graded version of that paper, along with their instructor's comments. Those whose submissions are accepted will then prepare a poster presentation. Workshops on how to design and present a poster session will be available to support student-participants. A number of monetary prizes will be awarded at the juried Fair, which is open to undergrad students from all faculties on both York campuses.

New this year - undergrad students who have created a piece of artwork for a 2015 York credit course may apply to have their work displayed in an *Art Walk* in Scott Library during the Fair. One artwork submission will be chosen to grace the cover of York's newest e-journal, **Revue YOUR Review** (<http://YOURreview.journals.yorku.ca>), associated with the Fair.

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

### Coming soon

Stay tuned for exciting developments for the new year. The Teaching Commons will be releasing a free app to help you keep up with our events, activities and discussions conveniently from your mobile device.

