

Teaching Commons News

Spring forward in March!



The Daylight Saving Time spring forward is right around the corner (Don't forget to turn your clock forward 1 hour on Sunday, March 12)! It is also time to spring forward in teaching with resources and supports from the Teaching Commons!

["1103 Daylight Savings Time 5x24 Bulletin"](#) by tenchi042 [CC BY-NC-SA 2.0](#)

Register for TIF

The registration for the 2017 Teaching in Focus (TIF) conference is now open. To register, complete [this form](#) by **Friday, May 5**.

[The Teaching in Focus Conference \(TIF\)](#) is a peer reviewed annual conference for all who teach or support student learning at York. The 2017 TIF conference is scheduled on May 17 and 18, 2017. For inquiries, email teaching@yorku.ca.

Teaching Commons Journal Club: March 2017

The Teaching Commons' March Journal Club will be on Wednesday, March 15 at 2pm. Join us at the Teaching Commons for an informal discussion of [Community-Based Research and Student Learning](#).

Journal Club participants are asked to read the chosen article in advance and come prepared to discuss their ideas, reactions, and questions with fellow colleagues interested in exploring innovation in teaching and learning.

Date: **2: 00 pm Wednesday, March 15, 2017**
Location: **Victor Phillip Dahdaleh (formerly TEL) Building – 1050 (Teaching Commons Lounge)**

Read summaries of our [previous journal clubs](#)



["St-patricks-day"](#) by Maiconfz Creative Commons [CCO](#)

Did you know ...

Teaching Commons supports academic units in their **Major Modifications** and **Cyclical program Review** exercises. Contact your Educational Developers for support: <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/quality-assurance/>.

Upcoming Workshops and Courses

March Webinar: Writing your Syllabus for Blended/Online delivery

Wed, March 8
2:00 pm-3:00 pm
[Register](#)

eLearning@York: Designing Blended Courses

Monday, March 20 & Wednesday 22,
1:00 pm- 3:00 pm
[Register](#)

New directions for student Leadership: Going digital in student leadership



We are thrilled to announce the publication of the release of the [new volume \(#153\) of New Directions for Student Leadership](#), co-edited by Lisa Endersby and Dr. Josie Ahlquist.

This volume focuses on ways educators and administrators can purposefully engage students in the complex process of leadership development as it is continually shaped by the advent of emerging digital tools and technologies.

Thriving in the University: A public Lecture on Why Higher Education Still Matters

Join us for a Public Lecture by Dr. Les Back (Goldsmiths, University of London)

Professor, sociologist, and author of *Academic Diary: Why Higher Education Still Matters*, Dr. Les Back from Goldsmiths, University of London will give a public lecture about the enduring importance of higher education. Then, inspired by Dr. Back's book, York University's Dr. Lorna Erwin (Sociology), Dr. Don Diplo (Education), and Dr. Vidya Shah (Education) will each share an academic diary entry and their perspective on life in the university today.

Date: **6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Wednesday, March 29, 2017**
Location: **152 Founders College**



Join the Ontario eTeaching & eLearning Community of Practice (CoP)



The new Ontario eTeaching & eLearning CoP website connects eLearning professionals in the province's colleges and universities to create a networking and professional development community where best practices, eLearning resources, perspectives, and experiences. Visit the CoP site <http://ontarioelearncop.ca/>, where you can view the materials and discussions, and join the CoP if you would like to take part.

For more information on the Ontario eTeaching & eLearning CoP contact:

Celia Popovic cpopovic@yorku.ca or Lisa O'Neill mloneill@yorku.ca

Teaching Commons' Blog – Teaching and learning at York



Each week from September to May we publish a blog written by and for the York teaching community. To read our blog, go to <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/teaching-commons-blog-teaching-and-learning-at-york/>.

If you would like to become a contributor to our blog, Contact Dr. Celia Popovic cpopovic@yorku.ca

Conference Report

The 36th annual First Year Experience Conference

Natasha May, Educational Developer, Teaching Commons

[The 36th annual First Year Experience \(FYE\)](#) conference took place in Atlanta, Georgia, February 11-14, 2017 and I was lucky enough to get to attend and co-present a session with Diane Woody and Michelle Miller. It was a pleasure and a sincere honour to get to work with these amazing professionals who have extensive knowledge and experience. We presented on transition pedagogy and the development of the [FYE in the Classroom Toolkit](#), an AIF project led by Susan Murtha and Diane Woody. Our presentation was well received by the 45 individuals in attendance, with an invitation to return next year and keep them updated on our progress with the toolkit. I think there was an appreciation for what we are doing at York to support students in transition because our situation is different. Many of the other conference presentations came from individuals at smaller institutions, speaking about their first-year seminar or common reading program. There is a lot of history, in the United States in particular, in supporting the first year experience with research and evidence to support what they are doing. However, through my own review of the literature and then a front row seat to learn from others at the FYE conference, I know that what we are doing at York will be successful. The strength at York is how all support for students is connected to their in classroom experiences. We know we can always improve and we will continue to strive for better by infusing what we have learned from the FYE conference, further developing the FYE in the Classroom Toolkit and other resources and programs to support students and those who support students.

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