May is Teaching and Learning Month at York. After a busy year, this is a good time to reflect on your teaching and receive inspiration for the coming year. Many exciting events are planned including the Supporting Teaching at York (STAY) Symposium on May 6th, and the York Teaching in Focus (TIF) conference held on May 19th and 20th - Register by May 13th!

TC News

We are very pleased to welcome a new addition to the Teaching Commons. Dr. Lisa O’Neill is a Faculty/Curriculum Developer, educational media researcher and educational technologist from way back. She has ‘played’ in the fields of technology, education and training for 20+ years on the west coast of Canada as Manager of Educational Media at SFU, Instructional Development Consultant at BCIT, Corporate trainer at eBay, and Department Head at VCC. Lisa has recently relocated to York University to begin a 2 year term to further support the institutions eLearning initiatives. As a Maritimer she’s happy to be close to the Atlantic again ;)

Reserve your seat for the 2016 TIF Conference

Teaching in Focus (TIF) Conference is the pan-university conference in Teaching and Learning at York University. This peer reviewed conference is for all who teach or support student learning at York to celebrate teaching, share experience and innovations in teaching practices, make connections, and build and expand a community and scholarship of teaching and learning.

May 19th and 20th
Day 1 – Putting Research into Teaching and Teaching into Research
Day 2 – Celebrating Teaching Innovation and Excellence

A detailed conference schedule is available here: http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/tif-schedule/

Register your attendance for the 2016 TIF conference by **Friday, May 13th, 2016:** http://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=319245

Did you know?

York University’s Mental Health and Wellness committee aims to promote a healthy, inclusive and supportive environment that fosters mental health and wellbeing among members of the York community. Read more about this initiative at http://mhw.info.yorku.ca/

Principles & Practices in Course Design

This workshop will provide participants the opportunity to develop or redesign and existing course. May 25, 9:30 – 12:30 in TEL 1014. Registration: http://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=261381

TC May Webinar: Teaching and Tweets

Facilitator: William Woolrich, School of Social Work
May 25, 12:00 – 1:00 http://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=339141
Alternatives to the Essay Workshop

Do essays help your students achieve the learning objectives of your course? Essay writing is a staple of humanities and social sciences teaching. Essays help students to develop skills in writing, research, logic, and reasoning. Our courses, however, often have other learning objectives and students can benefit from other types of writing assignments. This workshop introduces participants to alternative writing assignments for courses in humanities and social sciences. It will include sample assignments and it will take participants through the process of developing such assignments. This workshop will be facilitated by Sean Kheraj, Associate Professor, Department of History, LA&PS.

Tuesday May 17th, 2016, 1:00-4:00 (Room TEL 1014)
Registration http://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=338154

E-Learning Boot Camp

This one day intensive workshop is designed to provide you with ‘basic training’ for getting started with eLearning. The focus will be on helping colleagues who are interested in eLearning but have limited experience to start integrating technologies in teaching. This workshop introduces and demonstrates how faculty members can take advantage of technological tools in various ways to promote learning using various modes of eLearning delivery. You will have opportunities for hands-on work and to try out various eLearning tools, including some clever ones in Moodle you may not know exist!

Wednesday June 1st, 10:00–3:00 (Room TEL 2114)
Registration: http://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=341125

News from the Library

Workshop: Strengthening Student Success Through Research Skills

As part of Teaching and Learning Month, York Libraries will host a workshop for course instructors. This collaborative session will help participants rethink the design of research assignments, while utilizing a new framework for developing students’ research skills.

** Light refreshments will be served **

Thursday May 26th, 1:30-4:00 (Room TEL 1014)
To register, please complete this online form: http://bit.ly/1YRWq7C

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