



# Teaching and Learning Commons NEWSLETTER

## A MESSAGE FROM THE T&L COMMONS AVPTL




The beginning of the 2023-2024 academic year has been very positive. There was a notable increase in the number of faculty attending our August and September workshops and we're excited to be re engaging with you. You may notice some additional branding on communications from the teaching and learning Commons. Over the past few months, we've considered not only what work is in the scope of our department but also the way in which we endeavor to go about this work. We believe that through "**active intentional partnering**" we can support faculty, learning environments and be a catalyst for educational change across the institution. Over the past few years, we have worked on many initiatives with partner department's and hope to continue including this as an important part of our work.

In September, I chose to attend some personal PD around mindful leadership. One of the first reflection prompts they provided us was "what is your purpose for being here?" For me, mindfulness at home and at work is about attention and intention to the things we value. We can only pay attention if we are noticing changes in ourselves and in others, and the intention we set about shifting this is the tool that supports change. When I apply this question to my work the answer is that I care deeply about moving the culture of higher education to be more person centred. One that supports authentic and transparent communication as well as compassion in our practice with students and one another. This aligns to the mission of the Teaching and Learning Commons to provide pedagogical leadership that is grounded in *community, ethics and care*.

As I continually strive to put this into practice, I am committed to sharing the most authentic version of myself that I can while simultaneously attempting to create space for others to do the same. I know that my growth and the growth of others has an impact on our organizational outcomes and that hiding behind history, excuses and emotions creates a mask that is not supportive of the same. Please join me in imagining and working towards an organization where we are a resource and support to each other, where we can accept "what is" in the complexity of our world and where we move forward with intention to being our best.

Looking forward,

Dr. Leeann Waddington



We would like to acknowledge our appreciation of being able to work, study and live on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Coast Salish peoples, including those of the Kwantlen First Nation, who graciously bestowed their name on this university.



upcoming

# EVENTS



## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

TUESDAY OCTOBER 24

SURREY CAMPUS, SPRUCE ATRIUM,

11:30 AM-1:30 PM

[REGISTER HERE](#)

At Teaching & Learning, we build connections through active intentional partnering to advance the goals of teaching excellence. We are hosting a 3rd Partner Spotlight to shine a light on some of the special projects from these connections, and to showcase how teaching excellence is supported through an extensive network of partnerships that connect us together. This is a lunch and learn event to highlight their transformative impact both within and beyond the KPU classroom.

**STUDIO23**  
Reignite Your Teaching and Facilitation Practice

NOV 1 + 2  
VANCOUVER

REGISTER NOW

## STUDIO23:

REIGNITE YOUR TEACHING AND FACILITATION PRACTICE

NOVEMBER 1 -2

SFU HARBOUR CENTRE

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Studio23: Reignite Your Teaching and Facilitation Practice is a 2 day event taking place at SFU Harbour Centre, November 1st and 2nd. We invite you to check out the exciting program on the Studio23 website and to register! For those unable to attend in-person, we are offering a live streaming option of select sessions.

Here are some Program highlights and new and noteworthy additions to this BC campus event offering:

- Day 1 Keynote Kathi Camilleri "A Resilient Village Around Every Learner"
- Day 2 Keynote Carrie Nolan "Joy as Antidote"
- The Big Mixer: a lesson in Mixology and networking social
- An Arts-Based Approach to Crafting your Positionality Statement
- eportfolios: a Tool for Change Inside and Outside the Higher Ed Classroom
- The Art of Giving (and Receiving) Feedback
- Creative Engagement: Awakening the Artist Within
- Panel: Experiential Learning and Social Change through Projects in Studios, Labs and Makerspaces



# open education NEWS

## Supporting Student Led Open Pedagogy

- **Deirdre Maultsaid**, the TL Commons 2021 Open Education Research Fellow presented her research at the Open Education Conference last year. Her presentation can be viewed [HERE](#)
- A link to her recently published paper can be found [HERE](#)

## ZTC Updates

- The [ZTC Dashboard](#) has been updated to reflect Summer 2023 and AY 2022/23 Data.
- Current Zero Textbook Cost data shows that we are at \$9,985,446.55 in student savings!

## Excellence in Open Education

- Congratulations to **Melissa Ashman**, an instructor at KPU's Melville School of Business, who was awarded the BCcampus Award for Excellence in Open Education. Read more about Melissa's achievements [HERE](#)

## Fall OER Grants

- **Gerard Lavery**: created a resource on Horse Handling for the Farrier program
- **Robert Menzies**: continuing his work to publish HIST/ASIA student-created historical biographies
- **Shereen Hassan**: adapting a Research Methods in Criminology textbook
- **Michael Kiraly**: updating existing BIOL course packs with open material

Read more about the OER Grant Process [HERE](#)



spring 2024

# UNSDG CHAMPIONS

In an effort to support the integration of UNSDG sustainable development goals into student learning experiences, the TL Commons has initiated a champions program similar to our eportfolio champions.

We are pleased to announce the inaugural recipients of the UNSDG champion time release

<b>Mina Sahota, Human Resources Melville School of Business</b>
<b>Marcelo Machado, Graduate Business Management Melville School of Business</b>
<b>Pamela Ip, Marketing Melville School of Business</b>
<b>Constanza Rojas- Primus, Language &amp; Cultures Faculty of Arts</b>
<b>Kathy Dunster, Sustainable Agriculture/Horticulture Faculty of Science and Horticulture</b>
<b>Rajdeep S. Gill, Interdisciplinary Expressive Arts Program Faculty of Arts</b>





# spring 2024 EPORTFOLIO CHAMPIONS

The following faculty will partner with Commons to advance the use of ePortfolios in their respective departments and faculties. Having submitted project plans for their department initiative. They will have training, support and most importantly time to create resources and implement their projects.

**Sarah Hickinbottom, Educational Studies CNPS  
Faculty of Arts**

**Paola Gavilanez, Interior Design  
Wilson School of Design**

**Elzhibeta Bohinska, Accounting  
School of Business**

**Alexandra Lyon, Sustainable Agriculture  
Faculty of Science and Horticulture**

# learning OPPORTUNITIES



**Design for Accessibility** - Tues., Oct 17, 12:00-1:00PM [Register Here](#)

**Empowering Teaching Excellence: Exploring KPU's Ed Media Tools and Spaces for Faculty and Instructional Staff**

Thurs., Oct 19, 12:00-1:00PM [Register Here](#)

**Learning Outcomes Best Practices**

Fri., Oct 20, 10:00AM-12:30PM [Register Here](#)

**Intro to ePortfolios** - Fridays, Oct 20, 27, Nov 3, 1:00PM-2:30PM  
(3 part series) [Register Here](#)

**For more information as well as a complete list of our Fall Workshop offerings please visit the [TL Events Page](#)**



*purpose*

# STATEMENT

Through active intentional partnering, the Teaching & Learning Commons provides pedagogical leadership that is grounded in community, ethics, creativity, and care.

Connect with us!

[tlcommons@kpu.ca](mailto:tlcommons@kpu.ca)   [kpu.ca/teaching-and-learning](http://kpu.ca/teaching-and-learning)



**ACTIVE  
INTENTIONAL  
PARTNERING**