



Teaching & Learning Commons

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025



A MESSAGE FROM THE AVP

I can't believe its fall and the start of a new academic year. This is one of my favourite times of year; fresh and crisp air bring a need for me to clean, organize and reflect. 2025 has had no shortage of challenges, turns in the road, and with the angst this naturally causes there is also a vast realm of possibilities. Opportunities for our reflection to ignite innovation and mindful intention towards our common goals for education, students and our various disciplinary passions.

Re-engaging with colleagues at meetings and faculty welcome back events remind me of some of the things that make KPU special: A commitment to serving our community and each other, a passion for the role education plays in human flourishing, and the resilience to navigate change and re-invent ourselves to meet the needs of a changing world. Most folks don't like change and yet it is critical for growth and at the core of what we facilitate through learning. Enough of my musings...

I hope you have found the Tuesday Tune-Up messages useful. And if you were vacationing and missed them, all the previous ones can be viewed on our [SharePoint site](#). We have lots of [professional development offerings](#), synchronous and asynchronous to meet your needs or ignite your curiosity.

We have been reviewing the employee survey results and making an action plan to address your feedback; more details on that coming soon. As we transition from BigBlueButton to Zoom for our instructional conferencing needs, we are testing new features to roll out in the coming months and will update our Guidance for Conferencing Tool use in your classroom. The GenAI community of practice is rebranding as the GAI Network reflecting the approach of this group of faculty and leaders who are leading the way with this new technology. As we move into fall, we are reviewing the KPU Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan, the Global Education Plan and the KPU Climate Strategy to identify the supports we need to put in place to support the progress of these important initiatives.

There is lots going on in Teaching & Learning, but most important we want to support you with whatever changes you are considering in your curriculum, your syllabus, your teaching philosophy, your course design and delivery or whatever else comes to mind. Our offices are open for you to share space with us, grab a coffee, bounce ideas with someone or just do your work.

L Waddington

We at Kwantlen Polytechnic University respectfully acknowledge that we live, work and study in a region that overlaps with the unceded traditional and ancestral First Nations territories of the Musqueam, Katzie, Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen, Qayqayt, and Kwikwetlem; and with the lands of the Kwantlen First Nation, which gifted its name to this university.

ZOOM INTEGRATION



Reminder: We are transitioning to Zoom as our only instructional conferencing tool. The Zoom-Moodle integration launched August 1, 2025, offering a streamlined and consistent virtual classroom experience for both instructors and students. If you have not yet logged into Zoom, we encourage you to do so at your earliest convenience to confirm your account is active. Instructions can be found here: [How to log into Zoom](#).

BigBlueButton (BBB) will be retired on April 24, 2026 (end of the exam period). If you have used BBB for recordings, please download and archive any content you wish to keep before this date, as it will no longer be accessible. [Please see the instructions on how to download and archive BBB recordings in Kaltura here](#).

If you need support regarding Zoom and/or BBB migration or have any questions regarding this transition, please [submit a support request via Teaching and Learning Support Portal](#).

ELEVATE YOUR COURSE CONTENT

Are you prepared to engage your learners this Fall? At Teaching & Learning, we have spaces that support you in creating impactful video and podcast lessons that resonate with your learners.

We've made it easier than ever to produce professional instructional media. We offer a variety of state-of-the-art recording spaces located across multiple campuses. These dedicated environments are designed to help you capture high-quality content that enhances comprehension and engagement.

[Schedule a consult or book a space here](#).



NOMINATIONS FOR TEACHING AWARD

The T&L Commons is preparing to make a submission for **KPU Distinguished Teaching Award** and would like your input. Do you have a colleague or faculty member you would like to see recognized for excellence in teaching? Let us know and we can help put together a package for submission. Email tlcommons@kpu.ca.

[Click here to access the nomination package](#).

ART UNVEILING



Pictured above: Leeann Waddington and Pam Baker

On June 3rd, 2025, we hosted an art unveiling by Squamish Nation Artist and Fashion Designer, **Pam Baker**. Grounded in Coast Salish teachings, the piece, designed to represent the teaching and learning relationship, emphasizes the integration of story, heart, mind, and the symbolism of feathers. This piece will remain a permanent part of the Office of Teaching & Learning, serving as a reminder of our ongoing commitment to reconciliation, respect, and learning from Indigenous knowledge systems. We welcome you to visit the office in Arbutus 2400 and explore the piece in person.

We gratefully acknowledge the Office of Indigenous Leadership for funding this artwork, which reflects our shared commitment to supporting the xéʔel̓ KPU Pathway to Systemic Transformation, inclusive and reflective teaching, and meaningful partnership with Indigenous perspectives. By situating the artwork in Teaching & Learning, it serves as a visual commitment ensuring Indigenous perspectives are not just acknowledged but actively integrated into daily practice in the spaces where faculty, staff, and students engage.

UN SDG EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT



Beginning September 2025, Maryanne Eva is joining our team as a UN SDG educational consultant. She will be supporting faculty and program teams in designing inclusive, engaging, and purpose-driven learning experiences. In her role, she brings a special focus to integrating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) into curriculum and teaching practices. She provides guidance on the development of teaching resources and facilitates engagement efforts that foster innovative pedagogy. Maryanne collaborates with institutional partners to strengthen academic programming and promote sustainability-focused education across disciplines.

Welcome to the team, Maryanne!

TL COMMONS COMMUNITY CORNER

The TL Commons continues to be committed to developing community around teaching and learning. And to that end, you'll find below the latest blogs, communities of practice, and upcoming faculty development sessions to support you in your practice development.

Fall Workshops

We've moved to Humanitix! Navigation and registration is easy and seamless. Going forward, [view all upcoming workshops and events here](#).

Click the
title of the
workshop
to view

SEPTEMBER

Thurs, Sept 18, Synchronous Online Tools for Success
Mon, Sept 22, Teaching with Awareness: Understanding Instructor Impact
Thurs, Sept 25, Maximizing Moodle Gradebook
Fri, Sept 26, Generative AI Workshop Series

OCTOBER

Thurs, Oct 2, Reflect and Redesign: Intentionality and Iterative Course Design
Tues, Oct 14, Generative AI for Academic Integrity
Wed, Oct 15, Beyond the Grade: Designing Meaningful Student Assessments

NOVEMBER

Mon, Nov 3, Assessing ePortfolio Learning with PebblePad & ATLAS
Mon, Nov 3, Teaching Across Delivery Models: Strategies for Every Setting
Wed, Nov 19, Finding Free and Flexible Teaching Resources
Mon, Nov 24, Technology Enhanced eClassrooms Orientation
Fri, Nov 28, Getting the Best Out of AI: Prompt Engineering

DECEMBER

Mon, Dec 1, Assessing for Success: Empowering Learning Through UDL
Fri, Dec 5, Building Bridges: Aligning Learning Outcomes, Assessments and Activities
Mon, Dec 15, Establishing Your KPU Teaching Practices

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY SPEAKER SERIES THE OPPOSITE OF CHEATING: TEACHING FOR INTEGRITY IN THE AGE OF AI

Presented by Dr. Tricia Bertram Gallant

REGISTER HERE

Fri, Oct 3, 12:00-1:00PM on Zoom

Are Generative Artificial Intelligence (Gen AI) tools a threat to academic integrity or an opportunity for us to evolve teaching, learning and assessment? The answer is both, of course! In this session, we'll focus on understanding the threats and opportunities and then identifying the options that faculty have for minimizing the threat and amplifying the opportunities. In thinking about one thing we can do

next week, next term and next year, participants will leave the session empowered to craft their Gen AI and AI policy while creating a culture of integrity within their classes.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

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



VISIT THE COMMUNITY CORNER!



Arbutus 2400 (2nd floor library)

We invite you to spend time in the T&L Commons Community Corner. Enjoy our spacious seating and large screen to cast to.



Check us out on SharePoint!

- [T&L Commons SharePoint home page](#)
- [2025 Professional Development Series](#)
- [Simple Syllabus](#)

CHATGPT ATE MY HOMEWORK: WHAT EDUCATORS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GEN AI

CHECK IT OUT HERE!

Newly published book co-authored by KPU Business Instructor and Distinguished Teaching Award recipient, Aylm Amlani.

This book guides educators who may feel overwhelmed by the rapid and growing use of Generative AI by students. It explains the state of Gen AI in education, how we got here, and how educators can take action moving forward.

Lights, Camera, Engagement: No Production Crew, No Problem - Thurs, Sept 25, 12:00-1:00PM on Zoom
[Click here to register for a lunch & learn with Aylm](#)