



April 2022

In This Issue:

1. [CTE's Upcoming Workshops and Events](#)
2. [Teaching Award Recipients: DTA and AETS](#)
3. [CTE Accolades](#)
4. [UWTL Conference: How'd It Go?](#)
5. [CTE Staff Updates](#)
6. [New CTE Resources](#)

Upcoming Workshops and Events

Here are CTE's workshops for the rest of this term as well as a few beyond that!

Sessions on LEARN:

- [Getting Started in LEARN](#). Tuesday, **May 3**, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- [LEARN for TAs](#). Thursday, **May 5**, 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm
- [LEARN for TAs](#). Thursday, **May 12**, 9:30 am to 11:00 am
- [SoTL Miniseries](#). Wednesday, **June 1** to Wednesday, July 27.
- [PebblePad Users Group](#). Thursday, **June 2**, 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

CTE also continues to offer several **ongoing, self-paced learning opportunities** in LEARN that you can register for at any time:

- [Independent Blended Course Design \(iBlend\)](#)
- [Independent Remote Course Design Essentials \(iRecode\)](#)
- [Supporting Student Mental Health \(for instructors\)](#)

A two-day workshop called **Forum Theatre as Transitive Pedagogy** will be offered on **May 14 and 15** by Amir Al-Azraki, Department of Culture and Language Studies, Renison University College. Dr. Al-Azraki notes that in Forum Theatre "participants are transformed from passive spectators to active participants, engaging in critical dialogue and rehearsing for change."

Department Chairs might want to note (with regard to new hires) that the **New Faculty Teaching Days** for the Fall Term will take place on **August 10, 11, and 12**. Details about this programming will be forthcoming.

Teaching Award Recipients: DTA and AETS

CTE joins the rest of the Waterloo community in congratulating the deserving recipients of the 2022 [Distinguished Teacher Award](#):

- [Upkar Arora](#), School of Accounting and Finance
- [Paul McKone](#), Department of Knowledge Integration



Paul McKone Upkar Arora

We are also pleased to announce the recipients of the 2022 [Amit & Meena Chakma Awards for Exceptional Teaching by a Student](#):

- [Justin Shmordok](#), Department of Chemistry
- [Sanaz Saadatmand Hashemi](#), Department of Systems Design Engineering
- [Urja Nandivada](#), Department of Physics and Astronomy
- [Urszula Pasterkiewicz](#), School of Public Health Sciences

Congratulations to all of these exceptional instructors!

Click on each recipient's name to read the full citation of their award.

CTE Accolades



CTE is pleased to share the news that **McLennon Wilson**, one of our departing TA Workshop Facilitators, was recently named the recipient of this year's **Warren Ober Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student**. The award is granted to graduate students who have made significant contributions to teaching within the Faculty of Arts, and was established by Dr. Warren Ober, an early recipient of a Distinguished Teacher Award. Congratulations, McLennon!

CTE is also proud of one of our departing Teaching Assistant Workshop Facilitators, [Lucy Hinton](#), and one of our graduates of the Certificate in University Teaching program, [Phoebe Stephens](#), for co-authoring an article recently published in a pedagogy-focused special issue of *Canadian Food Studies*. The article is called "[The state of post-secondary food studies pedagogy in Canada: An exploration of philosophical and normative underpinnings](#)." The abstract for the article notes that "transformation is a defining characteristic of food studies and its pedagogy and puts critical thinking at the core of how food studies are taught in Canada."

The UWTL Conference: How Did It Go?

The 2022 [University of Waterloo Teaching and Learning Conference](#) wrapped up yesterday (April 28). Before he begins a well-deserved rest, I asked the coordinator of the conference, Kyle Scholz, for his thoughts.



So, how did the conference go? How many participants? How many presentations?

The presenters and facilitators sharing their research and expertise did a fantastic job! We were thrilled with the levels of engagement throughout by our participants, and found meaningful ways to learn with one another despite being online again this year. We had almost 500 individuals register for the conference with 87 sessions being facilitated.

What were the highlights from your perspective?

So many! Dr. Alison Cook-Sather's keynote was an excellent way to start the conference, giving us all lots to consider as we think about how to more intentionally integrate partnerships into the work that we do at UW. Despite some technical issues with the Igniting our Practice session, both Diana Skrzydlo and Sean Geobey demonstrated why they are the amazing educators that they are by navigating the technology expertly and allowing us to be students in their online classrooms. In the true spirit of partnership, we invited some student groups (UW's A Cappella Group and UW's Hip Hop Association) to perform at our breaks, and attendees found this to be an energetic way to start each day of the conference after our plenary talks.

What's the hardest part of organizing the conference?

Trying to determine how best and what aspects of a traditional "in-person" conference to incorporate. There seem to have been two major developments throughout COVID with online conferences. On the one hand, you can opt to host a number of Zoom sessions under the banner of a conference and bring folks together in this manner. On the other hand, you can opt to use a conference platform (such as the one we used this year, PheedLoop) to recreate some of the interactivity/conference community. We, of course, opted for the latter, and I think it certainly contributed to a more lively feel for the conference. It's not without its challenges, however, both from a technical and also logistical side. It's a lot of work, and when things don't go according to plan with the technology, it's frustrating to say the least, but we hope the overall conference experience was still meaningful for our attendees and that they appreciated the social elements of the conference.

This conference, like last year's, was fully online (except for the reception). What did you learn from last year's online conference that you implemented in this year's?

A couple of things. One, although we might think "oh, it's all online, take it easy, rest your eyes and mind when you need to," the reality is not so simple. We extended the downtime between sessions to give attendees (and presenters) more time to rest and think without feeling like they always need to be moving from session to session. We also were unaware of the scope an online conference can have with respect to bringing in interest from beyond UW. This year, more than ever before, have we seen so many educators from beyond UW join and share their own research and expertise. It's something to consider going forward – even though we do intend to eventually be back in-person for conferences, how can we still embed accessible means to join and engage with our conference?

When will you announce the theme of next year's conference? Would you be open to people sending you suggestions?

When one conference ends, planning for the next begins. We'll start thinking internally about themes almost right away, with the intent to make the Call for Proposals (and with it, the conference theme) available in October 2022. So yes, if you have ideas you'd like to see explored, feel free to email us at uwtl@uwaterloo.ca.

Thank you, Kyle and the rest of the UWTL Organizing Team!

CTE Staff Updates

CTE is pleased to announce that we've hired [Julia Burke](#) to replace Scott Anderson as Faculty Liaison for Environment as well as Accounting & Finance, Political Science, and Economics.

Julia first joined the University of Waterloo in 2019 as an Online Learning Consultant at the Centre for Extended Learning (CEL). Julia has worked with faculty to design over a dozen undergraduate and graduate courses. She spearheaded new teaching initiatives, including the design of the LEARN templates. She also teaches an environmental citizenship course at Canadore College.

Julia has an Honors Bachelor of Science in Biology from Western University, a Bachelor of Education from Nipissing University, and a Master of Environment and Sustainability from Western University. She has also completed further training in user experience design and learning experience design. Julia is an avid musician and enjoys exploring Ontario Parks and Conservation Areas.

Instructors can reach Julia at julia.burke@uwaterloo.ca or 519-888-4567 ext. 40562.

New CTE Graduate Student Staff

Welcome also to our new graduate student staff: TA Workshop Facilitators [Shannon Lodoen](#) (English) and [Rachel Beaver](#) (Biology), and Graduate Education Developers [Rebecca MacAlpine](#) (History) and [Dakota Pinheiro](#) (English).

CTE Farewells!

We'd like to thank and say goodbye to several individuals who have worked at CTE for the past term or two and contributed greatly to our programming and administration:

- [Lucy Hinton](#), Balsillie School of International Affairs
- [Sam Hossack](#), History
- [Shayan Majidy](#), Physics
- [McLennon Wilson](#), Psychology



New CTE Resources

The [CTE YouTube channel](#) has added a recording of a recent session of Waterloo's Extended Reality Community of Practice (XR CoP) entitled "[Using virtual reality in psychotherapy: Where are we and what's next?](#)" The presenter was Dr. Stéphane Bouchard who leads the UQO Cyberpsychology Laboratory and is a Canada Research Chair in Clinical Cyberpsychology.

We've also added to our YouTube channel a brief recording of [Waterloo student Dana Usaty](#) discussing "reflecting in the community" in relation to Student-Led Individually-Created Courses (SLICCs), as well as an hour-long workshop on [Documenting Your Teaching for Tenure and Promotion](#).

Also, did you know that some of CTE's YouTube videos have received tens of thousands of views? For example, "[Fundamentals of University Teaching: Microteaching Session Lesson Feedback](#)" has received almost **40,000 views** since 2016!

And collectively, our **150+ Teaching Tip Sheets** receive more than **1 million views** every year!

To subscribe to CTE's In the Loop newsletter, click here.



CTE's Facebook page



CTE's Twitter



CTE's website

The Centre for Teaching Excellence acknowledges that we are located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (Neutral), Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometers on each side of the Grand River.

Copyright © 2018 Centre for Teaching Excellence. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address:
Centre for Teaching Excellence
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, ON, Canada
N2H 3A3

cte@uwaterloo.ca
cte.uwaterloo.ca

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).