



August 2019



As of July 1, 2019, there were a few changes to the CTE's organizational structure. [Read more about the changes on CTE's website.](#)

Question: CTE staff who used to be called "Instructional Developers" are now called "Educational Developers." Is this merely some kind of cosmetic change?

Answer: Associate Director, Trevor Holmes says, "The short answer is no way!" He can talk for hours about the history behind this, so we asked him for the medium-length answer. "The higher-ed professionals who support academics in their teaching practice and curriculum design work have been around, inside and outside teaching centres, since the late 1960s and 1970s in Ontario. We've had formal names that reflect international norms but don't always resonate locally: faculty developer, instructional developer, academic developer, educational developer. Around 2004 a number of us worked on a project to consolidate our identity as part of the formation of a Caucus within the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Based on some early research in the area, we went with Educational Developer/Educational Development in our Canadian context. It has really stuck as a term, to the point that now virtually all the job ads in our field use this way of identifying us. So, in order to be consistent for people moving in and out of our Centre, we have updated our titles to reflect this now-established norm."

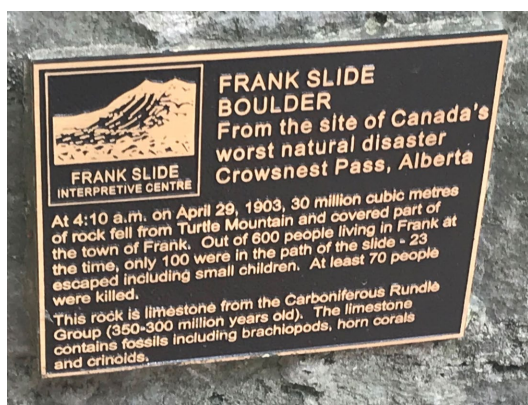


What we're thinking about

Interested in learning more about PebblePad, the University of Waterloo's new centrally-supported e-Portfolio platform, and how it can facilitate engagement, reflection, and integrative learning? In addition to registering for workshops, you can hear how three UWaterloo instructors have used PebblePad, and how it has impacted learning - [view the videos.](#)

The date for the 2020 University of Waterloo [Teaching and Learning Conference](#) has been set! It will be held on **Wednesday, April 29th, 2020.** Stay tuned for the theme of the conference and a call for proposals.

The Virtual/Augmented Reality Community of Practice recently met to hear more about how Google Expedition is being used by the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. *Below: John Johnson took the group on a tour of the Peter Russel Rock Garden, where virtual reality made it possible to experience the geographic origins of each specimen without leaving campus.*



University of Waterloo Teaching Awards

The University of Waterloo celebrates teaching that has lasting, positive effects on students and deepens student learning. Consider nominating someone you know for the [Distinguished Teacher Award](#) (deadline: **Friday, January 24, 2020** - contact [Trevor Holmes](#) for more information) or the [Amit and Meena Chakma Award for Exceptional Teaching by a Student](#) (deadline: **Friday, February 14, 2020** - contact [Svitlana Taraban-Gordon](#) for more information).



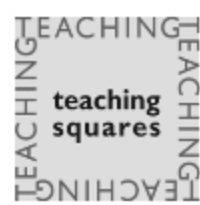
Planning Ahead

There are a number of workshops coming up in August and beyond, including webinars, PebblePad training sessions, the Instructional Skills Workshop and the Facilitator Development Workshop, in addition to programming specific to new faculty and graduate students. View the complete list on the [CTE website.](#)

Register for CTE programming at <https://uwaterloo.gosignmeup.com>.

Teaching Squares

[Teaching Squares](#) provides a framework for reciprocal classroom visits and a debrief discussion that sets the stage for you to revitalize your own teaching. If you will be teaching in fall of 2019 and you are interested in being a part of a teaching squares group, please [register for the fall 2019 Teaching Squares program](#) by Wednesday, September 4, 2019.



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.

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