

IN THE LOOP

CTE's Monthly Newsletter

May 2023
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CTE's office is open Monday to Friday
8:30 am to 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Second floor of the East Campus 3 building



University of Waterloo Teaching & Learning Conference

The 14th annual University of Waterloo Teaching & Learning Conference is almost here! May 3 is devoted to pre-conference online workshops. May 4 will feature the keynote address (Dr. Barbara Mokhtewenkwe Wall, Trent University) as well as a full roster of in-person sessions.

[Conference Program](#)

Teaching Awards

Distinguished Teacher Award Recipients

The Centre for Teaching Excellence, along with the rest of the University of Waterloo community, heartily congratulates the four recipients of the 2023 Distinguished Teacher Awards:

Keith Delaney, Nardine Nakhla, Zara Rafferty, Diana Skrzydlo

Full citations for each recipient are available in the [Daily Bulletin](#).

AETS Recipients

The highly-deserving recipients of the 2023 Amit & Meena Chakma Award for Exceptional Teaching by a Student (AETS) have been announced: **Abigale O'Reilly**, Chemistry; **Justin Schrier**, Physics and Astronomy; **Mikaela Lewis**, Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering; **Tandeep Sidhu**, Sociology and Legal Studies!

CUT Award Recipient

Congratulations to Shayla Redlin Hume, recipient of the 2023 Certificate in University Teaching (CUT) Award! The award is given to a graduate student who shows strong commitment to teaching development and demonstrates the highest achievement in the CUT program. Read an [interview with Shayla](#) on the CTE news reel.

Congratulations to all of these teaching award recipients!



Workshops and Events

Regular programming

With a new term comes a new roster of CTE workshops and events, including programming for [all faculty and staff](#) and [graduate students](#). We've also developed [self-directed, asynchronous workshops](#) that are available in LEARN.

Of Special Note

[Supporting Neurodivergent Students](#), May 10 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm (online). In this workshop facilitated by Christine Zaza (Workplace Accessibility Specialist, Human Resources) and Jennifer O'Brien (Learning Strategist, AccessAbility Services), you'll learn about neurodivergence and discuss how course design and instructional strategies that support neurodivergent students are also beneficial for neurotypical students.

[Course Redesign for Flipped and Other Models of Blended Learning](#), May 31, 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm and June 7, 1:30 to 4:30 pm. Participants in this in-person workshop will engage in activities to work through a course redesign process specific to blended learning with an emphasis on a flipped classroom model.

Your Opinion Please

Faculty Needs Survey

The Centre for Teaching Excellence would like to better understand how we can support faculty members as they pursue their teaching development goals. To this end, we have emailed instructors a link to a faculty needs survey we have developed, which will take about ten minutes to complete. You can also access the survey from this link:

[Faculty Needs Survey](#)

We received nearly 300 responses to the 2017 iteration of this survey and acted upon the suggestions and feedback to develop new programming and resources and enhance existing ones. We value your input!

Polling Tools

ITMS, with Peter Wood as faculty lead, is undertaking a review of polling tools – such as iClickers, Kahoot, Mentimeter, Poll Everywhere, Mathematize, Slido, Teams and others – to see if there is sufficient demand for a common tool to support an enterprise license. These tools can be leveraged to support active learning in the classroom. The team welcomes feedback from as many instructors as possible. If you are interested in participating in this review, please contact [Peter Wood](#).

Urban Art(z) Lab

Waterloo's [Urban Art\(z\) Lab](#) welcomes individuals interested in using Urban Arts as a mechanism to conduct cutting-edge/socially-engaged research that focuses on "street-related" issues; engage in decolonizing learning; provide training in decolonizing arts-based research to faculty and students.

Pedagogy of the Street

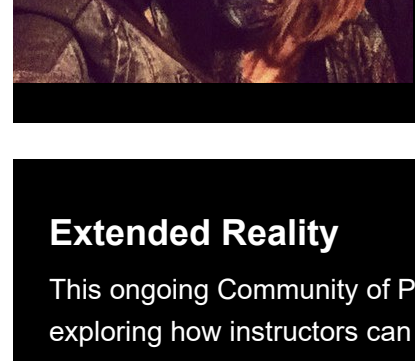
Check out an [interview in the Daily Bulletin](#) with Adam Ellis, one of the presenters at the upcoming University of Waterloo Teaching and Learning Conference. Ellis is the founder of [The Street Institute](#), a research hub for critical scholars and community activists who have direct knowledge and experiences of life on the streets.

New Resources

The Science & Practice of Teaching: An Instructors' Handbook

Ken McKay (Management Sciences) has released an online handbook consisting of over 150 notes on various key topics in teaching and learning. The resource is called [The Science and Practice of Teaching: An Instructors' Handbook](#). Two CTE staff members – Richard Li and Natalie Chow – also assisted in its development. The handbook is an "extension" of an earlier resource: [The Owner's Manual for The Student Brain](#). We [interviewed Ken](#) about that resource in 2021.

Learning Communities

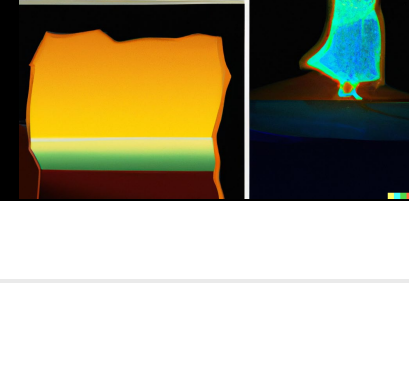


For Instructors of First-Year Students

This Learning Community is open to all instructors of first-year students. The four sessions in May and June will focus on peer-to-peer discussions of the following topics: preparing for the term; the first weeks of class; during the term; wrapping up the term. If interested in attending, please email [Julia Burke](#).

Extended Reality

This ongoing Community of Practice focuses on exploring how instructors can leverage Extended Reality (XR) technologies (such as Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality) in their teaching. All are welcome. Contact [Mark Morton](#) for details. *Image by DALL-E2: "Create an image for VR in the style of Chagall."*



Farewells and Welcomes!

CTE Co-op Students

As they depart for a new term, we are so appreciative of our Special Projects Assistants, Sarah Abdelrahman, Rachel Lam, and Brent McCreedy-Branch, who supported our CTE programming over the past 4 months. Every day the co-ops brought new energy (and new dad jokes) to our office – we will surely miss them!

We are delighted to welcome Lauryn Quinn and Charley Potter to the Special Project Assistant roles for the Spring 2023 term

Graduate Students

With the end of term, CTE would like to say farewell and thank you to several graduate student staff who have contributed greatly to our programming during their time with us:

TA Workshop Facilitators

- Keqi Shu (Mechanical Engineering)
- Shannon Lodoen (English Language and Literature)

Graduate Educational Developer

- Toben Racicot (English Language and Literature)

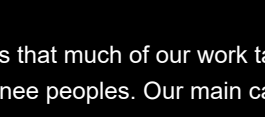
We also welcome the graduate students who will be joining us, or moving into new positions in the graduate program teams, as the new term starts up:

New TA Workshop Facilitators:

- Karmvir Padda (Sociology)
- Amanda Nova (School of Public Health Sciences)
- Jerika Sanderson (English Language and Literature)

Former TA Workshop Facilitators joining the Graduate Educational Developer team:

- Brandon Dickson (Balsillie School of International Affairs)
- Lia Tennant (Kinesiology)



The University of Waterloo acknowledges that much of our work takes place on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. Our main campus is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land granted to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. Our active work toward reconciliation takes place across our campuses through research, learning, teaching, and community building, and is coordinated within our [Office of Indigenous Relations](#).

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