

# Engineering Teaching Development Working Group

November 2012



## Working Group Session

- Date: Wednesday November 14, 2012
- Time: 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm (*lunch provided: RSVP required*)
- Location: E5 2007
- Details: The need to add new subject material or desired student outcomes to existing courses creates challenges if we are to ensure that the required student workload is reasonable. Usually the addition of new course content or focus requires that some existing subject material be removed.

### ***How to make sure that essential material or concepts are not lost in course evolution?***

One category of essential concepts is the so-called threshold concepts. Threshold concepts are “akin to passing through a portal” or “conceptual gateway” that opens up students to new level of understanding. In this session Julie Timmermans, Centre for Teaching Excellence, and Gordon Stublely will present features of threshold concepts and discuss how they can be identified. Participants are encouraged to bring their course outline so that they can get a little experience in identifying the threshold concepts in their courses.

All engineering faculty members, sessional instructors, and teaching assistants are welcome to participate in this session.

**To facilitate planning, those wishing to participate are kindly asked to confirm by 4:30 Wednesday November 7, 2012.**

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