Top Stories

Things to consider when choosing educational technology tools

Occasionally, you may receive emails from vendors and representatives about different technology tools and resources available to support your teaching. When you receive information about new tools or resources, we encourage you to engage in critical, informed thinking about your teaching practice. Key things to consider include:

- **Pedagogical goals**: Will this tool or resource advance my teaching practice and improve the student experience?
- **Availability**: Are there tools or resources already available at Carleton that perform similar functions? Does the tool or resource have additional costs for me or my students?
- **Accessibility and usability**: Is the tool easy to use? Am I comfortable using it without additional support, and/or providing support for my students in using it? Will it be safe, accessible and usable by all my students?

In this issue

- Things to consider when choosing educational technology tools
- LMS review update: Draft requirements for the learning management system
- Collaborative Indigenous Learning Bundles and their place in your courses
- Teaching tools vending machine
- The Discovery Centre has joined the TLS team

Events

**Capture: An Introduction to Creating Course Videos**

*July 10, 1:30 - 3:30 PM*

Whether you want to record a PowerPoint presentation, show your students how to use an
Carleton makes available a host of fully supported tools to help you achieve your pedagogical goals. There are lots of benefits to using institutionally supported tools in your teaching, including:

- Free access for you and your students
- Training, documentation and support from the Educational Development Centre
- Support from a community of peer instructors who have used the same tool
- Where possible, integration with the learning management system
- Supported tools have undergone thorough information security and privacy assessments

Here is a list of officially supported educational technology tools available at Carleton:

- cuLearn (Moodle), our Learning Management System
- Poll Everywhere, our student polling and interaction tool
- BigBlueButton, our web conferencing tool
- cuPortfolio (Mahara), our ePortfolio tool
- Capture (Kaltura), our video hosting and management tool

For more detailed information about these tools, visit our educational technology page. For information about upcoming training opportunities, visit our events page. To set up a consultation, email edtech@carleton.ca.

When you receive information or inquiries from external vendors, the choice to respond or not is yours. When considering what tools and resources best support your teaching, the choice is yours. Teaching and Learning Services is here to empower educators through support, community and expertise.

**LMS review update: Draft requirements for the learning management system**

The Learning Management System (LMS) Advisory Group has developed a comprehensive set of requirements for Carleton's LMS needs. These requirements were developed through very significant consultations with faculty, contract instructors, teaching assistants, students and staff. Requirements from other institutions completing similar reviews were also consulted.
These draft LMS requirements are available for any Carleton community member to review and comment until July 12. You will need to use your MyCarletonOne account to access the document. Note that the requirements are not to be shared or distributed to any person or group outside of Carleton.

Once finalized, the requirements will be incorporated into a Request for Proposal (RFP). This is a document used to solicit responses from vendors and service providers. While the RFP is an important document in our selection process, it will be used primarily to help identify platforms that meet our requirements. Once we identify the most suitable platform(s) based on the responses to the RFP, we will invite these platform(s) to demonstrate the products to the Carleton community and provide opportunities for users to test their product and services. This will allow the community to compare a select group of LMS platforms that meet our requirements to the platform that powers cuLearn (Moodle).

The responses to the RFP help inform our process and recommendations. It does NOT mean that we are changing platforms or that we are selecting a product based on a provider's responses.

Collaborative Indigenous Learning Bundles and their place in your courses

Educational institutions bear a great responsibility, not only in helping learners develop a set of skills, but in shaping their attitudes, values and beliefs as they prepare to become active participants in society. And it is through education that subjects can be brought to light that have historically been denied the prevalence they deserve.

In 2016, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada made several calls to action, including recommendations specific to higher education. One of those recommendations was for post-secondary institutions to integrate more Indigenous knowledge into the classroom.

Following the calls to action, there was an even bigger demand at Carleton for Indigenous experts to visit classes and present on Indigenous issues, but that wasn't sustainable.

July 17, 1 - 3 PM
Join us for your introduction to Carleton's electronic portfolio technology, cuPortfolio. This session will provide an overview of ePortfolios, review how they can be used to deepen and enrich learning and assessment, and provide a hands-on introduction to cuPortfolio.

Multiple-Choice Retreat
July 24, 9 AM - 3 PM
3M teaching fellow and multiple-choice expert, Dr. Anthony Marini, will help you develop your skills in writing and refining multiple-choice questions. The hands-on retreat will explore a variety of topics, including best practices in item writing, techniques for constructing items that target higher cognitive levels of learning, and using item analysis results to refine and enhance your tests.

Introduction to Collaborative Indigenous Learning Bundles
July 31, 10 AM - 12 PM
The Collaborative Indigenous Learning Bundles are online resources that enable instructors to incorporate Indigenous voices
“Since I arrived [at Carleton] in 2014, right from the get-go I was asked to contribute lectures in other classes,” says Kahente Horn-Miller, a professor in the School of Indigenous and Canadian Studies. “I found that myself and other colleagues in the same position were essentially being run ragged going from class to class during lectures. I wondered if there was another way to do this.” Read more.

Teaching tools vending machine

Have you ever arrived at your classroom only to find there aren’t any whiteboard markers? Or that you forgot your USB drive? We’ve got you covered! IMS is piloting a vending machine this summer that can provide these teaching tools to faculty in need. The machine holds whiteboard markers and erasers, chalk, chalkboard erasers, thumb drives, cue cards, and HDMI cables, among other items.

Faculty can access the above mentioned items at no charge. For a demonstration, please drop by the IMS office in Loeb D283 and we would be happy to show you how it works.

The Discovery Centre has joined the TLS team

The Discovery Centre for Undergraduate Research and Engagement, which formerly reported into the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), has joined the Teaching and Learning Services' portfolio.

David Hornsby, Associate Vice-President (Teaching and Learning), will take over the responsibility of the Discovery Centre with the support of the Discovery Centre Administrator.

We are excited about this opportunity to engage our undergraduate students as partners in teaching and learning innovation and research.

Learn more about the recent restructuring within the Office of the Provost here.

Community of Practice Meeting: Collaborative Indigenous Learning Bundles

Aug. 1, 10 AM - 12 PM

This meeting is an opportunity for instructors to reflect on their experience using a Bundle in their teaching, to prepare to teach with a Bundle in the fall semester, and to learn from colleagues’ experiences incorporating Bundles into their courses.