Workshop

Course re-design within a community of practice model

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Length	Half day

Objectives This half day workshop is designed to allow participants to learn about the design and implementation of a new program for staff development initiated at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The design of this programme provides a community of practice model for staff to work on course re-design. This approach can significantly reduce the amount of time needed for curriculum development at a minimal cost without compromising the creation of an effective learning environment. The implementation of this program, at the institutional level, includes Professional Development, Subject Development, Implementation and Evaluation and Dissemination.

In the workshop, in addition to learning about the program design and implementation, participants will learn about and apply the process of 'applied learning mapping' that faculty use as the framework for redesigning their course when they participate in this staff development program. The 'applied learning mapping' process is designed to shift instructors from a tendency to focus on content coverage and presenting content, to the design of a learning environment that promotes student interaction and engagement with the content.

Time for discussion on how the approach can be adapted and presented, using a combination of online modules and face-to face workshops to meet specific institutional needs will be incorporated into the workshop.

Intended audience This workshop is open to all conference attendees and will be of interest to teaching staff who are interested in learning about a model that they can immediately apply to re-design a course for blended learning. Participants may wish to bring along a course outline for their course to use during the applied activities.

The workshop will also be of interest to educational developers who wish to learn about a model for a programme that they may wish to introduce at their own institutions. The approach of the e –Scholars programme goes beyond the traditional offering of workshops/seminars for staff development to include the provision of on going support to a cohort of staff as a community of practice, while they initiate changes in their course design and delivery.

Facilitators **Dr. Diane Salter** has a PhD in Cognitive Science from the University of Toronto, a Masters Degree in Educational Psychology from the University of Calgary and over 16 years experience in leadership in higher education specializing in innovative approaches to e-learning initiatives. She is currently working in the Educational Development Centre at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and has initiated the E-Scholars programme at this institution to guide faculty in innovative approaches to course re-design and delivery. Her leadership roles in Canada include leading innovation in program and curriculum development as Dean at the Sheridan Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, and extensive work in technology innovation at the Centre for Learning and Teaching Through Technology at the University of Waterloo. Diane designs and facilitates 'Rethinking Learning' workshops to faculty internationally, including institutions in Canada, USA, Australia, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Details of activities

This session is experiential, and participants will learn about, discuss and apply the concepts of the e -Scholars Programme to their specific course or institutional needs. The E –Scholars Programme was designed to provide staff with:

- a planned course of professional development for staff to 'rethink' their courses as they redesign to incorporate a blended learning approach;
- direct funding (if needed) for development and implementation of the individual subject-level development work;
- in-kind instructional design support;
- systematic evaluation of learning impact.

In this workshop participants will:

- learn about the design and implementation of the e-Scholars Programme;
- learn about and apply the educational framework of the programme;
- apply the concepts of the applied learning mapping process to their own course or institutional examples;
- have time for discussion of examples and applications for their own course or institution.

The workshop is practical in nature, and participants will work on exercises in small groups and in large group discussions. Participants who are teaching staff will be able to draft ideas for how the model can be used for their own course re-design; participants who are staff developers may wish to consider application of this approach at their institution and will be able to draft and have feedback to their ideas.

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