



Conference on University Teaching and Learning **and Celebrate Teaching!** Awards Ceremony

Full Program

Wednesday March 27, 2024

2024 Conference on University Teaching and Learning

Transformative Teaching: The Past, Present, and Future of Teaching in Higher Education

- 9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.** **Land Acknowledgement and Welcome**
Miranda Varricchio, Educational Developer, Teaching and Learning Centre
Dr. Kaitlyn Watson, Educational Developer, Teaching and Learning Centre
- 9:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.** **Opening Remarks**
Dr. Lori A. Livingston, Provost and Vice-President, Academic
- 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.** **“The Social Flux is at Free Flow”: Historical Mindedness in Preparing for an Ever-Changing World**
Dr. Theodore Christou, Dean, School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
- 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.** **Who Are Our Students?**
Dr. Joe Stokes, University Registrar and Assistant Vice-President, International
- 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.** **Nurturing an Inclusive Community**
Ruth Nyaamine, Assistant Vice-President, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.** Break
- 11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.** **Ojibway Cultural Presence Framework (OCPF): Creating a Culture-specific Instructional Design Framework utilizing Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to promote (W)holistic well-being, Cultural identity and Nationhood for Ojibway-based Online Post-secondary Education**
Mark Sayers, Indigenous Dissertation Completion Fellow, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Lunch + **TD Ready Commitment: Core Skills Across the Campus**
Sarah Stokes, Interim Manager, Student Learning Centre
- 12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.** **Open Education Showcase**
Aalina Shahid, Content Developer, Open Education Lab
Ghufran Shahid, Content Developer, Open Education Lab
- 1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.** **A.I., Changing Cultural Values, and Postsecondary Education**
Dr. Isabel Pedersen, Professor, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities
- 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.** **Flipped Classroom Instructional Design to Enhance Student-Centered Learning Experiences**
Dr. Laura Banks, Associate Teaching Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences
- 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **Panel: The Future of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education**
Hannah Atkinson, Teaching Assistant, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education
Nawal Elshamiy, Student, Faculty of Health Sciences
Victoria Matheou, Student, Faculty of Health Sciences
- 3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.** **Closing Remarks**
Dr. Susan L. Forbes, Director, Teaching and Learning Centre

Session Details

Morning Sessions

9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - "The Social Flux is at Free Flow": Historical Mindedness in Preparing for an Ever-Changing World

Dr. Theodore Christou

This presentation explores the critical role of historical mindedness in equipping individuals to navigate the complexities of today's ever-changing world. It underscores the importance of understanding historical events, trends, and patterns as a means to grasp the present and anticipate the future. By integrating historical awareness into a comprehensive vision for teaching and learning, the presentation argues for a more informed, adaptable, and civic-oriented approach to facing contemporary challenges. The discussion highlights how historical mindedness not only enriches our comprehension of current affairs but also empowers us to make informed decisions and predictions about future societal shifts. Through this lens, education becomes a pivotal tool for preparing individuals to thrive in an uncertain world, demonstrating that a deep engagement with history is essential for navigating the complexities of the present and the unknowns of tomorrow. The title quotation draws on notes of John Rugg, noted progressivist and Columbia University Professor, dated to the Great Depression.

10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - Who Are Our Students?

Dr. Joe Stokes

The presentation provides a data-based overview of Ontario Tech students: where they come from, where they hope to go, and how educators can support their success.

10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Nurturing an Inclusive Community

Ruth Nyaamine

Ontario Tech is a rich, vibrant and diverse community. This session aims to unpack the backpacks our students walk in with. We will dive into the varied intersectional factors that concurrently show up in the classroom for our students and more importantly transitioning to the roles educators and each of us play in nurturing an inclusive culture at Ontario Tech where every member feels a true sense of inclusion and belonging. We will discuss key elements to include tangible and practical ways educators can create space to enable student success and wellbeing – centering on their full identities.

11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. - Ojibway Cultural Presence Framework (OCPF): Creating a Culture-specific Instructional Design Framework utilizing Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to promote (W)holistic well-being, Cultural identity and Nationhood for Ojibway-based Online Post-secondary Education

Mark Sayers

Lunch Session

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - TD Ready Commitment: Core Skills Across the Campus

Sarah Stokes

Transferrable skills are developed through a variety of activities on campuses, including professional development, co-curricular activities, independent learning, and within the academic stream. While rarely explicitly assessed and articulated, employers frequently stress that these transferrable skills are key drivers of success in applying technical skills in the workforce. Thanks to a grant from TD Ready Commitment, we piloted a series of micro-credentials that empowered learners to articulate a range of enduring, transferrable competencies. This program has been designed to exploit the flexibility of micro-credentials by allowing learners to earn the same badge following a variety of learning opportunities, including professional development aimed at campus staff, co-curricular activities, independent learning, and integrated within the classroom. To date, more than 5,000 independent learning opportunities have been undertaken by more than 2,000 unique learners, allowing us to tailor the program to the needs of each student.

Afternoon Sessions

12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Open Education Showcase

Aalina Shahid, Ghufraan Shahid

In this presentation, student-staff from the Open Education (OE) Lab will provide a brief overview of the open education movement, and showcase some of the open resources and practices in development right now at Ontario Tech.

1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. - A.I., Changing Cultural Values, and Postsecondary Education

Dr. Isabel Pedersen

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is seeping into all facets of life, and *generative AI* specifically is changing how we learn, work, create, interact with others, and live. This talk will discuss issues such as human agency, creativity, cultural values, and ethics surrounding AI technologies in postsecondary education and the unintended consequences that may result in the future. The presentation will offer insights into ethically-aligned design principles and AI literacy.

1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. - Flipped Classroom Instructional Design to Enhance Student-Centered Learning Experiences

Dr. Laura Banks

The flipped classroom is a blended learning environment whereby students can engage with materials (e.g., pre-recorded lecture episodes, course readings, pre-class quizzes) prior to attending a real-time and/or in-person class. This instructional design has been increasingly used to promote academic performance and engagement, student satisfaction, and self-efficacy. The instructional design of the flipped classroom can vary significantly. During this presentation, I will share data and experiences on implementing a flipped classroom design in first and second-year undergraduate courses in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Ontario Tech University. We have observed that a flipped classroom instructional design can be highly effective in fostering student satisfaction in a hybrid learning environment, particularly with brief lecture episodes, synchronous lecture review activities, and the integration of digital tools.

These experiences have cultivated my desire to build a greater understanding about common practices in instructional design, the use of technology, and digital tools in teaching at Ontario Tech University. As the Teaching Scholar in Residence (2024-2026), I have proposed "Exploring Teaching Excellence in our Academic Community: Hybrid (e-TEACH) Approaches to Enhance Student-Centered Learning Experiences". This initiative includes conducting an environmental scan and building a new community of practice whereby faculty and students can initiate discussions on using innovative instructional design and technologies in the undergraduate classroom. These discussions will co-create knowledge and best practices within an ever-changing hybrid and online educational landscape.

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Panel: The Future of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

Hannah Atkinson, Nawal Elshamiy, Victoria Matheou

This panel discussion will centre on student-specific perspectives on the ever-evolving landscape of higher education. Panelists will share their insights on and experiences with adapting to instructional and technological change, as well as the role of the learner in shaping the future of teaching and learning.

Presenter Biographies

In order of presentation

Dr. Theodore Christou

Dr. Theodore Christou is a Professor of Educational History and Dean of the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at Ontario Tech University. Theodore is a widely published poet, historian, and philosopher of education. A life-long educator, Dr. Christou is a member of the Ontario College of Teachers and the College of Early Childhood Educators. Along with his years of academic service at Queen's University and at the University of New Brunswick, Theodore has lectured and taught internationally in the fields of history education and social impact.

Dr. Joe Stokes

Dr. Joe Stokes is the University Registrar and Assistant Vice-President, International at Ontario Tech University, and an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Education. He has led work across the post-secondary sector on governance, strategic enrolment management, and student retention and student success. In the last 5 years Joe has led or been part of groups that have attracted over \$1.3 million in research funding while continuing to act in a senior administrative role at Ontario Tech University.

Ruth Nyaamine

Ruth Nyaamine is a recognized, celebrated and respected business leader. After serving three years as the first Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at TELUS, Ruth joined Ontario Tech university in May 2023. She has an extensive track record leading cultural transformation, operations, growth and strategic partnerships across varied industries and organizational structures. In her current role as Assistant Vice President, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging she continues to support the community on our individual and collective learning journey to nurture an inclusive community where we can all feel a true sense of inclusion and belonging.

Alongside her IDEA expertise and business leadership experience, she places high value on giving back to her community and making a social impact. She is Founder and Program Lead for Ladder 2 Rise, an IDEA-focused non-profit that empowers vulnerable and underserved youth. The Ladder 2 Rise program has created pathways for organizations at all levels to demonstrate active allyship with proactive investment in youth from low to poor socio-economic backgrounds.

Mark Sayers

Mark Sayers is a Full-status and Treaty Ojibway Anishinaabe nini who grew up in his home community, the Garden River First Nation, near Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Mark is an enrolled student in the Doctor of Education Ed.D program at Ontario Tech University in Oshawa, Ontario. In addition to his Master of Education degree from Ontario Tech University in Oshawa, Ontario, Mark also earned a Bachelor of Education in Aboriginal Adult Education from Brock University in St. Catharines, a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies from Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario, and a Diploma in Anishinaabemowin Language Immersion from Sault College in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

In September of 2023, Mark was awarded the Indigenous Studies Dissertation Completion and Teaching Fellowship with the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSH) at Ontario Tech University in Oshawa, Ontario, where he is also in the 2nd year of the Doctor of Education Ed.D program. Mark's doctoral research aims to create a culture-specific instructional design framework for Ojibway-based post-secondary online education, drawing upon the traditional teachings of his Elders and other Garden River First Nation community members. As a professional educator, Mark incorporated numerous interactive technology tools into the online classroom environment, such

as Perusall, Hypothesis, Kahoot and Flipgrid, and is proficient in utilizing various online learning management systems such as Canvas, D2L Brightspace, and Sakai.

Sarah Stokes

Sarah (BSc Hons, Ontario Tech; BEd, Ontario Tech; MET, UBC; EdD (ABD), UND) is the Interim Manager of Ontario Tech's Student Learning Centre, and an Educational Developer with the Teaching and Learning Centre. She is an experienced educator, e-learning developer, and instructional designer. She supports the university's microcredentials offerings, open education movement, and Open Education (OE) Lab, and teaches in the Learning Engagement Academic Program (LEAP).

Aalina Shahid

Aalina is a second-year Medical Laboratory Science student in the Faculty of Health Science, and has been part of the Open Education Lab since May 2023. With the multiple projects that OE Lab has to offer, she looks forward to providing resources that upcoming students can benefit from. In her spare time, she enjoys baking, taking long walks, and playing video games.

Ghufran Shahid

Ghufran is a fourth-year Mechanical Engineering student who has worked with the Open Education Lab since 2021 as a Content Developer. His favorite project has been providing peer Educational Technology Support, as it allowed him to work with students 1 on 1. Through his work at the Lab, he hopes to provide more accessible resources to engineering students.

Dr. Isabel Pedersen

Isabel Pedersen is the Director of the Digital Life Institute, an international research network of scholars studying the cultural implications of emergent digital technologies, where she also leads the AI and Social Implications cluster. She is Professor of Communication Studies at Ontario Tech University and studies the cultural, ethical, and political challenges posed by technological change through design, adoption and adaptation. Her most recent co-authored books include *Augmentation technologies and artificial intelligence in technical and professional communication: Designing ethical futures* (Routledge, 2023), *Writing Futures: Collaborative, Algorithmic, Autonomous* (Springer, 2021), and *Embodied Computing: Wearables, Implantables, Embeddables, Ingestibles* (MIT Press, 2020).

Dr. Laura Banks

Dr. Laura Banks is an Associate Teaching Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Ontario Tech University. She is responsible for teaching human anatomy and physiology as well as exercise rehabilitation courses. She is also a Master of Arts student in the Faculty of Education with an interest in evaluating flipped classroom instructional design. As the incoming Teaching Scholar in Residence (2024-2026), her work will focus on "Exploring Teaching Excellence in our Academic Community: Hybrid (e-TEACH) Approaches to Enhance Student-Centered Learning Experiences."

Hannah Atkinson

Hannah Atkinson is currently a Teaching Assistant in the M&LF Faculty of Education and was a Microcredential Program Assistant at Ontario Tech University. She is a Registered Early Childhood Educator and using her Bachelor of Arts to work toward her Master of Education. Her research interests explore topics related to digital play, educational technology, and digital learning objects.

Nawal Elshamiy

Nawal Elshamiy is a third-year Human Health Sciences student. For the past year and a half, Nawal has been a Peer Educator at the Student Learning Centre, providing academic support to students in first and second year. Nawal's experience as a Peer Tutor has reinforced a passion for teaching and the use of multimedia resources to enhance learning. As an undergraduate student, Nawal has learned that learning is a continuous journey and believes that through the integration of technology into post-secondary education, we can empower learners in higher education.

Victoria Matheou

Victoria Matheou is a fourth-year undergraduate student in the Health Sciences program, specializing in Human Health Science. As part of her coursework, she is completing a research practicum on the impact of vape detectors on student vaping in the Superior Greenstone District School Board. She also works part-time at the Student Learning Centre at Ontario Tech as a Peer Success Facilitator, where she supports students with study skills through group workshops, support groups, and individual appointments. After she graduates, Victoria aspires to pursue a Master of Education degree at Ontario Tech and hopes to become a professor in the future.

Celebrate Teaching! Awards Ceremony

Celebrating Instructional Excellence at Ontario Tech in the 2023 Academic Year

3:45 pm

Land Acknowledgement and Welcome

Student Choice Awards

Presented by Dr. Susan L. Forbes, Director, Teaching and Learning Centre

Teaching Assistant Excellence Award

Presented by Dr. Theodore Christou, Dean, School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Tim McTiernan Student Mentorship Award

Presented by Ghufraan Shahid, Student in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Learning Reimagined Award

Presented by Dr. Steven Murphy, President and Vice-Chancellor, Ontario Tech University

Openness in Education Award

Presented by Dr. Susan L. Forbes, Director, Teaching and Learning Centre

Early Career Teaching Award

Presented by Dr. Lori A. Livingston, Provost and Vice-President Academic, Ontario Tech University

Award for Excellence in Teaching

Presented by Dr. Steven Murphy, President and Vice-Chancellor, Ontario Tech University



Award Nominees

Student Choice Awards

Awarded to the top student-nominated instructor in each Faculty who contributes to teaching and learning within our campus community.

Nominees

Nelson Amaral, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Tina Cloutier, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Mehdi Hossein-Nejad, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Samaneh Mazaheri, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Amanda McEachern-Gaudet, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Adam Prokop, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

James Robb, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Karthik Sankaranarayanan, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Kayla Tomulka, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Anwar Abdalbari, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Martin Agelin-Chaab, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Murat Aydin, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Ahmad Barari, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Naglaa Elagamy, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Khalid Elgazzar, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

John Froats, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Sayed Ali Hosseini, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Dima Jawad, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Brendan MacDonald, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Nasim Moallemi, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Atef Mohany, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Namdar Saniei, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Sheldon Williamson, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Mohamed Youssef, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Aaron Yurkewich, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Tricia Dwyer-Kuntz, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Brenda Jacobs, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Jennifer Laffier, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Stephanie Thompson, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Lavern Bourne, Faculty of Health Sciences

Arlene De La Rocha, Faculty of Health Sciences

Crystal Garvey, Faculty of Health Sciences

Joseph Gurgis, Faculty of Health Sciences

Mikael Khan, Faculty of Health Sciences

Sarah Mavor, Faculty of Health Sciences

Syed Qadri, Faculty of Health Sciences

Patricia Riley, Faculty of Health Sciences

Mona Rogan, Faculty of Health Sciences

Otto Sanchez, Faculty of Health Sciences

Paul Yelder, Faculty of Health Sciences

Mihai Beligan, Faculty of Science

Rupinder Brar, Faculty of Science

Franco Gaspari, Faculty of Science

Ilona Kletskin, Faculty of Science

Mariana Shimabukuro, Faculty of Science

Ana Vakiloroyaei, Faculty of Science

Andrea Braithwaite, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Logan Ewanation, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Jordan Harel, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Leigh Harkins, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Vivian Stamatopoulos, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Shannon Vettor, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Zhemeng Wu, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Teaching Assistant Award

Recognizes teaching assistants who demonstrate superior commitment to their students through effective teaching.

Nominees

Juan Carlo Alicaway, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Hannah Atkinson, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Guadalupe Blanco-Velasco, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Alannis Davis, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Taraneh Dehghani, Faculty of Science

Ingi Hong, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Ashley Hope, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Prachal Jadeja, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Md Omar Faruq Joney, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Daimen Landori-Hoffmann, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Arujan Parameswaran, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Akash Samanta, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Peimaneh Shirazi, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Hailey Tabbert, Faculty of Health Sciences

Hamed Tadayoniahrab, Faculty of Health Sciences

Sara Taghavi Motlagh, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Julie Vizza, Faculty of Health Sciences

Tim McTiernan Student Mentorship Award

Recognizes individuals who consistently demonstrate a passion for supporting student success, an ability to inspire personal and professional growth and an outstanding commitment to promoting the values of the university.

Nominees

Bill Hunter, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Lindsay Malloy, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Elita Partosoedarso, Faculty of Health Sciences

Lawrence Joseph Ruse, Faculty of Science

Laura Thursby, Student Learning Centre, Office of Student Life

Learning Reimagined Award

Recognizes individuals or groups who demonstrate unique and original solutions to specific problems of practice in their classes.

Nominees

Ana Duff, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Brenda Jacobs, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Jennifer Laffier, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Sharon Lauricella, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Brendan MacDonald, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Sharman Perera, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Bobby Stojanoski, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Stephanie Thompson, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Open Education Award

Recognizes individuals or groups who act by contributing, attributing, releasing, and empowering the use of open educational practices throughout our campuses and beyond.

Nominees

Ana Duff, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Anna Rodrigues, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Annette Tavares, Faculty of Science

Early Career Teaching Award

Recognizes innovation and excellence in teaching by individuals in the first five years of their teaching career (as of December 31, 2023).

Nominees

Zeinab El-Sayegh, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Emilia King, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Gabby Resch, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

Bobby Stojanoski, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Stephanie Thompson, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

Award for Excellence in Teaching

Recognizes a faculty member who demonstrates sustained and superior achievements in undergraduate and/or graduate teaching, as well as educational service and leadership.

Nominees

Brendan MacDonald, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Thomas McMorrow, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

Robyn Ruttenberg-Rozen, Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education
