



**THOMPSON  
RIVERS  
UNIVERSITY**

Centre for  
Excellence in  
Learning & Teaching

## Focus on Teaching - April 2022

As we wrap up the winter term, our team is eagerly looking forward to offering a variety of spring and summer programming. Read through the rest of this newsletter to find out more about the [Facilitator Development Workshop](#), [Tenure and Promotion Sessions](#), our [Course \(re\)Design Institute](#), the 3-day [Land-Based Teaching Retreat](#) in Clearwater and an exciting [SoTL Retreat](#). In July we look forward to being the host institution for the [National Great Teachers Seminar](#) at beautiful Sun Peaks!



CELT and the Office of Indigenous Education were grateful recipients of a TRU/TRUFA EDI Grant to create a [Teaching Resource Library](#). Come and check out our new books!

[ISSOTL](#) is being held at UBC-O in Kelowna this year. The deadline to submit a proposal has been extended until April 10.

Lastly, we are proud to share that Dr. Lyn Baldwin (Biology) is a recipient of the [2022 West Coast Teaching Excellence Award](#)! If you are thinking about applying for a teaching award this year (i.e. 3M National Teaching Fellowship, D2L Innovation Award, or West Coast Teaching Excellence Award) it's never too early to start working with us so you can have the strongest possible application.

As always, if there is something you want to see us offer, please reach out, we look forward to working with you.

## Announcements

### National Great Teachers Seminar July 10-14, Sun Peaks, BC

CELT is proud to be hosting the 35th National Great Teachers Seminar in the Canadian Mountains this summer in beautiful Sun Peaks. This transformative retreat experience is designed for both full and part-time faculty members and offers the opportunity to engage in highly interactive discussions, share successful teaching strategies and learn from each other. Space is limited. The seminar is open to TRU faculty as well as those from other institutions.



[Registration](#) is now open.

## Upcoming Workshops and Events

### ISW Facilitator Development Workshop April 19-23, OL121 (1 seat left)

During this five-day workshop you will become certified to offer the [Instructional Skills Workshop](#), a facilitated approach to teaching adults that is recognized in 37 countries around the world. [Register here.](#)



### Tenure and Promotion Sessions

May 3 & 4, HL 269 (select sessions also offered via Teams)

Whether you are on the tenure-track or thinking of applying for full, these sessions will provide you with information and resources to help you put together a successful dossier.

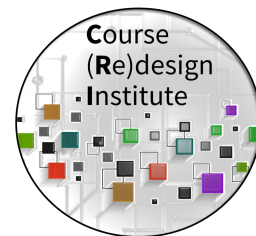


Workshops offered this year include: Preparing for Promotion and Tenure, Writing Educational Philosophy Statements, Document Management, a Faculty Panel, CVs vs. Resumes, and Evidencing your Teaching. New this year we will be offering a session on writing your APAR. Register on the [CELT calendar](#) for individual sessions.

### Course (Re)Design Institute

May 9-13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., HL 269

Working on a new course, or tweaking an existing one? During this hands-on, five-day workshop you'll have the opportunity to map course concepts, engage with course learning outcomes, plan instruction and learning activities, and determine how best to assess student learning. [Register here.](#)

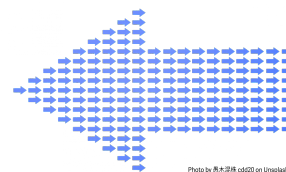


### Backwards Design Workshop

May 25, 10:30-11:30 a.m. (Online)

Have you been tasked with creating a new course for the coming terms? Or have you wanted to make adjustments to a course that you are already teaching? What if your learners remembered the course and its learning pathways years after they took it?

Sometimes changing the way you think about designing instruction can help you and your learners reach the goals you have set for the course. Backward Design (BD) is a workshop to look at an alternative way to think about designing a course. Join me for this one hour

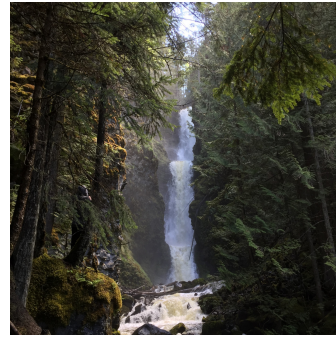


virtual workshop as we examine the differences in traditional design thinking, Backward Design thinking, and walk through the stages that make up BD. [Register here.](#)

## Indigenous Land Based Teaching and Learning

May 30-June 1, Clearwater, BC

Join Laura Grizzlypaws and local knowledge keepers in Clearwater to be introduced to or deepen your understanding of the practices of Indigenous land-based learning. The three-day/ two-night workshop will be grounded in practices of respect, responsibility, reciprocity and relationality. Please note that participants will be engaged in hands-on activities held primarily outdoors in a remote setting. Food and accommodations will be provided, pre-travel meetings will be scheduled for advance planning and preparation. [Register here.](#)



## Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Retreat

June 20-22, 9-4 p.m., HL 210 a/b

Join CELT for a three-day SoTL research retreat where you and faculty colleagues from around campus will work to find out how SoTL fits into your classroom and discipline - from forming a research question - to examining the literature - to choosing methods - to ethics - to partnering with student researchers - to funding your research. By the end of the retreat, you will have the beginning of a SoTL research proposal and have identified a pathway to undertaking a SoTL research project. [Register here.](#)



## In Progress: the CELT Blog

### Decolonize This!

John Churchley, Education

What does it mean to decolonize our writing and assessment? In this reflective and persuasive post, John explores the topic of linguistic imperialism, and leaves us with a letter to his students, in the form of a song. [Read it here.](#)



"Be kind, be calm, be safe" -

Dr. Bonnie Henry, '20

Jacqueline Kampman

How does our teaching live up to the expectation to "be kind, be calm, be safe" that we have heard repeated so many times in the past year? Jacqueline reflects on the uncertainty of returning to campus and what safety means during an ongoing pandemic. [Read it here.](#)

**"Be kind, be calm, be safe"**

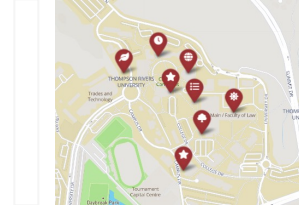
- Dr. Bonnie Henry, '20

**Have a teaching idea you'd like to write about?** Send us an email! [celt@tru.ca](mailto:celt@tru.ca)

## Professional Development

### New Faculty Community of Practice (Monthly)

If you're new or new(ish) to TRU and would like to connect with others to hear about topics pertinent to you, please join us for this New Faculty Community of Practice.



Email [celt@tru.ca](mailto:celt@tru.ca) to join.

## Learning Technology & Innovation

### Learning Technology

Learning Technology & Innovation (LT&I) offers regular drop in sessions and a diverse selection of informative workshops, exploring innovative approaches to using technology.



Check out their [website](#) to view the wide selection of resources and view the upcoming workshops on the [LTI calendar](#).

Email: [learningtech@tru.ca](mailto:learningtech@tru.ca)

### For Students

#### » [Learning Without Walls](#)

Support for students in Moodle. (enrolment key: help)

Email: [studenthelp@tru.ca](mailto:studenthelp@tru.ca)

## Conferences

Visit our [External Conferences](#) page to get up to date information on upcoming conferences, including links and submission deadlines.



Here's a sneak peek at what's on there right now: [\[See More\]](#)

**May 1-3** University of Calgary Conference on Postsecondary Learning and Teaching (Hybrid/Calgary, AB) [Conference website](#)

**May 2-4** Canadian Network for Innovation in Education 2022 Conference: Innovation Every Day: Moving Beyond COVID-19, Concordia University (Online) [Conference website](#)

**May 4-5** Dalhousie Conference on University Teaching and Learning (Online) [Conference website](#)

**May 16-19** Open/Technology in Education, Society and Scholarship Association (OTESSA) (Online) [Conference website](#)

**May 31-Jun 3** ICED22 - Sustainable Educational Development - International Consortium for Educational Development - Danish Network for Educational Development in Higher Education (Aarhus, Denmark) [Conference website](#)

**Jun 7-10** Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE) (Ottawa, ON) [Conference website](#)

**July 5-7** Teaching and Learning Conference 2022: Teaching in the spotlight: Where next for enhancing student success? (Northumbria University, Newcastle) [Conference website](#)

**Nov 2-5** ISSOTL 2022: At the intersections of SoTL: Transfer & Transformation, Diversity & Inclusivity - Syilx Okanagan Nation (UBC's Okanagan Campus, Kelowna, BC) [Conference website](#)

*Focus on Teaching* is the monthly newsletter of the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT). We showcase instructional development opportunities and resources for TRU faculty and staff, and up-to-date information on current projects, initiatives and professional development opportunities. To read past issues of Focus on Teaching or to subscribe to our mailing list, visit our [Newsletters page](#).

We respectfully acknowledge that TRU is located ne Secwepemcú'ecw, in unceded Secwepemc territory.

To contact CELT, email [celt@tru.ca](mailto:celt@tru.ca) and we will do our best to respond within 24 hours. Please note that some members of our team are working remotely.

