

# Learning and Teaching Developments

Quarterly updates from the Learning and Teaching Academy and Educational Development Unit

## Welcome

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Welcome to Issue 2 of *Learning and Teaching Developments* - a joint newsletter from the Learning and Teaching Academy (LTA) and Educational Development Unit (EDU) at the University of the Highlands and Islands. We'll be using this newsletter to provide quarterly updates from the LTA and EDU across areas including educational practice, scholarship and research, and current and forthcoming events, projects and initiatives. Going forward we will highlight interesting learning and teaching developments from other parts of the university.

This newsletter is being circulated to colleagues who have engaged with the LTA and EDU through events or projects, although we hope you consider sharing this more widely. Colleagues who aren't already signed up to receive this newsletter can email [lta@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:lta@uhi.ac.uk) and request to be added to the newsletter mailing list.

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## Learning and Teaching Conference 2017

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The university will be holding a Learning and Teaching conference on 19-20 June 2017. There will be a programme of face-to-face events in Inverness, with the opportunity to participate virtually through webinars and videoconference. Further details and a full programme of events can be found on the [conference webpages](#).

**Information tables:** If you would be interested in having an information table in the Atrium at Inverness College UHI for the duration of the conference please email Alex at [lta@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:lta@uhi.ac.uk)

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## EDU and LTA at the Learning and Teaching Conference

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Colleagues from the EDU and LTA will be offering a number of sessions at the forthcoming Learning and Teaching Conference. Several of the sessions are being offered in conjunction with colleagues from other parts of the university.

**Insights from flipped practice; EDU's Technology Enhanced Learning programme for NHS Highland**

John MacMillan, Education Development Leader and Ann Tilbury, Academic Skill Developer, Educational Development Unit

**Equipping students for employment: the role of Graduate Attributes**

Rosie Alexander, UHI Careers Manager and Ann Tilbury, Educational Development Unit

**eTips – Embedding the Outputs**

Scott Connor, Educational Development Leader and Jacky Macmillan, Head of Educational Development Unit, Educational Development Unit

**Confidence with copyright: Copyright the Card Game**

John MacMillan, Educational Development Leader and Anne Chard, Educational Development Leader, Educational Development Unit

**E. Poster presentations: Creating virtual learning landscapes and Building your skills in technology enhanced learning – exploring the EDU's support portal**

Educational Development Unit

**The truth is out there?: Using internal surveys to predict NSS results**

Heather Fotheringham, Quality Enhancement Impact Officer, Learning and Teaching Academy.

**Evaluation of ALPINE: What impact does HEA Fellowship have on university staff?**

Heather Fotheringham, Quality Enhancement Impact Officer, Learning and Teaching Academy.

**Developing Educational Research at UHI: Where are we now and where might we go?**

Keith Smyth, Head of the Learning and Teaching Academy and Gareth Davies, PGT Tertiary & Higher Education Scheme

**Advancing theory and practice in research-based learning and teaching: Moving forward with a university-wide initiative**

Michael Rayner, Dean of Research and Keith Smyth, Head of the Learning and Teaching Academy

[More information](#)



## Porous University Symposium

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On the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of May the LTA and Open Educational Practices Scotland (OEPS) project co-hosted a symposium on the theme of the Porous University. Held at An Lòchran on Inverness Campus, and with several sessions also broadcast online, the symposium attracted participants from across the UK, and further afield, for a series of discussions and activities focused on “a critical exploration of openness, space and place in Higher Education”. Various blog posts and social media interactions relating to the event can be found using the hashtag #porousuni. You can also view [a short video of the symposium](#) created by Dr Jennifer Jones (University of the West of Scotland).

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## SOLSTICE and CLT Conference 2017

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The SOLSTICE conference in technology-enhanced learning is held annually at Edge Hill University, and this year is being run as a joint conference with Edge Hill University's Centre for Learning and Teaching. The [programme for the conference](#) features a number of guest speakers, including Keith Smyth from the LTA who will present a session titled 'Situating digital space and place within the Porous University'.

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## ALPINE registration now open

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ALPINE (Accredited Learning, Professional development and Innovation in Education) is the university's framework for the professional recognition of good practice in learning and teaching, learning and teaching support, and educational leadership. ALPINE allows the university to award colleagues Associate Fellow, Fellow and Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (HEA).

In recognition panels held in January and December 23 Fellowships were awarded. A further 36 ALPINE recognition applications are underway at the moment. We are now accepting registration forms for the next cohort starting after the summer break.

More information on ALPINE and the registration form is available to download on the [LTA website](#). Completed forms should be returned by Friday 23rd June to [alpine@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:alpine@uhi.ac.uk) Colleagues should seek line manager approval before completing the application.

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## Jisc: Connect More 2017

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The Educational Development Unit's John MacMillan will be presenting a session at [Jisc's Connect More event](#) at Glasgow Caledonian University on Tuesday 6th June. John's presentation will look at ways the Educational Development Unit is working to support staff at the University to engage effectively with technology enhanced learning. The Support Portal the unit has been developing recently will be the focus of the presentation, which will also look at the methods used to utilise these resources in workshops and as part of curriculum development projects.



Contact [John MacMillan](#) for more information.

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## EDU Technology Enhanced Learning Programme

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An EDU-designed technology-enhanced learning programme for staff in NHS Highland is now in its second iteration following its first successful delivery in October 2016. The programme - designed, developed and delivered by Ann Tilbury, Scott Connor and John MacMillan of the EDU - helps NHS learning and development staff to adopt blended delivery approaches. Using a flipped classroom methodology learners undertake 20 hours of learning over three months through a blend of online learning and collaborative workshop sessions. The programme is regarded as a highly effective collaboration between Remote and Rural Health Education Alliance (RRHEAL NES) and the university.

Contact [Ann Tilbury](#) for more information

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## New Critical Perspectives blog post

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The National Student Survey, student satisfaction and its link to teaching quality is the topic of our [most recently published post on the LTA blog](#).

This is the second instalment in our 'Critical Perspectives' series of blog posts, where we have asked staff from around the university to write critically about a topic of interest. The series began with [Matt Sillars' post on learning styles](#) back in January of this year. Is there a topic in learning and teaching that you get hot under the collar about? We would love to include your thoughts in future editions of Critical Perspectives. Please get in touch with Heather Fotheringham at [lta@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:lta@uhi.ac.uk).

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## Higher Education Academy Surveys Conference

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Heather Fotheringham from the Learning and Teaching Academy presented a paper at the recent Higher Education Academy Surveys conference. The event, held in Manchester on 11<sup>th</sup> May, attracted delegates from across the country and featured keynote presentations from Mantz Yorke and Nick Hillman of the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI). Heather spoke about the university's module survey and how the survey results correlated with the university's results from the National Student Survey (NSS)

More information about the event can be found on the [Higher Education Academy website](#).

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## Beyond the university

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The Scottish Government has commissioned a new toolkit for teachers to help improve attainment levels in Scottish schools. There is some useful information in the Teaching and Learning Toolkit that may help inform decisions taken in curriculum development work.

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/resources/teaching-learning-toolkit/>

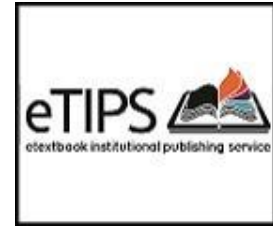
In early June the [Journal of Perspectives in Applied Academic Practice \(JPAAP\)](#) is publishing a Special Issue on Student Transitions. The issue is aligned to the current QAA Scotland national Enhancement Theme on Student Transitions, and features a range of research papers, case studies and reports drawn from across and beyond the Scottish Higher Education sector. Several of the submissions concern work undertaken for the current Enhancement Theme, and the Special Issue has been guest edited by Professor Roni Bamber (Chair of the Enhancement Theme Leaders Group), Dr Lorraine Anderson (Deputy Chair of the Enhancement Theme Leaders Group), and the LTA's Professor Keith Smyth.

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## eTIPS Project

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Laurence Patterson from Edinburgh Napier University and Professors Frank Rennie and Keith Smyth from UHI will be presenting at the 'Institution as e-textbook publisher' Jisc project workshop on Friday 16th June in Birmingham.



The three year Jisc project investigated the viability of higher education institutions publishing their own e-textbooks. The joint UHI/Edinburgh Napier University team published two e-textbooks during the project: 'How to write a research dissertation' and 'Undertaking your research project', which are available through Amazon.

The event is free but booking required. [Book through the Jisc website.](#)

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## Good practice case studies

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The LTA has produced a number of good practice case studies showcasing the innovative practice of staff from across the university. The aim of these short accessible resources is to help staff to reflect on their practice and to inspire them to try some innovations of their own.

- You can [access existing case studies](#) on the LTA website
  - We are always looking for new case studies. Please contact Heather Fotheringham at [lta@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:lta@uhi.ac.uk) if you have innovative practice to share
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### LTA Connect webinars

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The Learning and Teaching Academy runs a monthly webinar featuring an internal or external speaker presenting on a key aspect of educational practice theory or research. Webinars are recorded whenever possible, with links made available via the [LTA website](#).

Please contact [lta@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:lta@uhi.ac.uk) if you would like to present at a webinar in the future.

[More information](#)

### Open for registration

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#### **Seeking professional recognition through ALPINE: One hour information webinar**

14th, 27th or 28th June: Facilitated by Alex Walker

This year's series of **LTA Connect Webinars** are coming to a close. They will recommence in August. If you would be interested in offering an LTA Connect Webinar in the new academic year please contact Alex at [lta@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:lta@uhi.ac.uk)

[More information](#)

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This newsletter is edited by Alex Walker (LTA) and Anne Chard (EDU).

For any enquiries regarding the newsletter please email [alex.walker@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:alex.walker@uhi.ac.uk)



**Our mailing address is:**

The Learning and Teaching Academy and Educational Development Unit  
University of the Highlands and Islands  
An Lòchran, 10 Inverness Campus  
Inverness, Hld IV2 5NA  
United Kingdom

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