

**ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

**TEACHING  
& LEARNING  
AT TRENT**



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For Teaching and Learning at Trent, 2023 can best be described as a year of growth in programming and increased engagement of a vibrant community of Trent faculty, staff, and Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs), all dedicated to promoting teaching excellence. We are delighted to share with you some of the highlights of our work in 2023!

## Increased professional development resources tailored to the needs of Trent faculty and staff



Teaching and Learning staff engaged with Trent instructors, GTAs, and instructional staff, listening closely to their teaching challenges and requests for support. Out of these conversations, we provided one-on-one consultations and thematic professional development workshops, developed online resources, and offered a monthly newsletter, all focused on providing evidence-based responses to current instructional challenges such as student engagement and increased use of generative artificial intelligence.

## Rich opportunities to engage with innovative thinkers in teaching and learning



Throughout 2023, we hosted a diverse roster of Distinguished Visiting Teaching Scholars and a reimagined Kawartha Teaching and Tech Conference. These opportunities allowed Trent faculty, GTAs, and staff to learn about current trends and debates within higher education from invited speakers and one another and to share their own work within the scholarship of teaching and learning.

## A continued commitment to Indigenous pedagogies



Through continued one-on-one consultations with our Educational Developer for Indigenous Pedagogy and new opportunities, such as the “Starting the Journey” series and “Tea and Teachings” sharing circles, we have sought to support Trent faculty and staff in integrating Indigenous pedagogies and ways of knowing into their courses and approaches to teaching and learning.

## A reinvigorated community of practice for scholars of teaching and learning



In 2023, we were fortunate to add a permanent Education Developer focused on promoting the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) at Trent. Her work has allowed us to reinvigorate the Scholars Table Program as a community of practice for instructors focused on SoTL, to expand the scope of our Wickerson Foundation Fund grants to include trauma-informed pedagogy, and to highlight the research conducted by our Teaching Fellows.

## Extraordinary growth in online course development and student enrolment on online courses



Trent Online’s eLearning Designers, Technologists, and Multimedia Specialist were busy throughout 2023 developing a plethora of online courses and educational sites. Working with diverse faculty subject matter experts, our staff employed innovative course design and educational technologies to engage students with course materials, their instructors, and each other. Proof of their excellent work is evident in increased student enrollment in online courses and international recognition for their projects!

## Robust recognition of teaching excellence at Trent



Our teaching awards program saw enormous growth, with a record number of students, faculty, and staff writing heartfelt nominations on behalf of a record number of Trent instructors and GTAs. The recipients of Trent’s 2023 University-Wide and Decanal teaching awards are extraordinary educators, who highlight the incredible work that Trent instructors do to inspire students’ learning, support students’ growth, and engage innovative practice.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN, TEACHING AND LEARNING

Dear Reader,



Thank you for perusing our annual report and listening to our stories from the past year. As you will see, much has been happening in Teaching and Learning at Trent, both in our Centre for Teaching and Learning and Trent Online units, and much

of it has been themed around growth and engagement. To support our mission to help Trent faculty be their best teaching selves, we have provided instructional faculty and staff with professional development, technical and media support for online and in-person course design, skill development credentialling, Indigenous pedagogy support, recognition for excellence in teaching, and support for pedagogical research and development through our fellowship programs.

In doing so, we have built strong collaborations with members of our Trent learning community and those beyond. We have also supported our own students in their professional development through multiple employment opportunities with Teaching and Learning.

This work is made possible through the efforts of an incredible team of committed and talented people along with the support of our administration. We look forward to growing, serving our learning community, and actively engaging with our larger community in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fergal O'Hagan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Fergal O'Hagan, Ph.D.  
Associate Dean, Teaching and Learning

## MEET THE TEAM

Dr. Fergal O'Hagan, Associate Dean,  
Teaching & Learning

Sylvia Dick, Administrative Coordinator

Elise Dingman, Jessica Malcolm, Administrative  
Coordinators, IEN

## Trent Online

Terry Greene, Senior eLearning Designer

Josh Andrews, eLearning Technologist

James Bailey, Multimedia eLearning Design  
Specialist

Lillian Chumbley, eLearning Designer

Duncan Clarke, eLearning Technologist

Stephanie Ferguson, eLearning Designer

Christian Metaxas, eLearning Designer

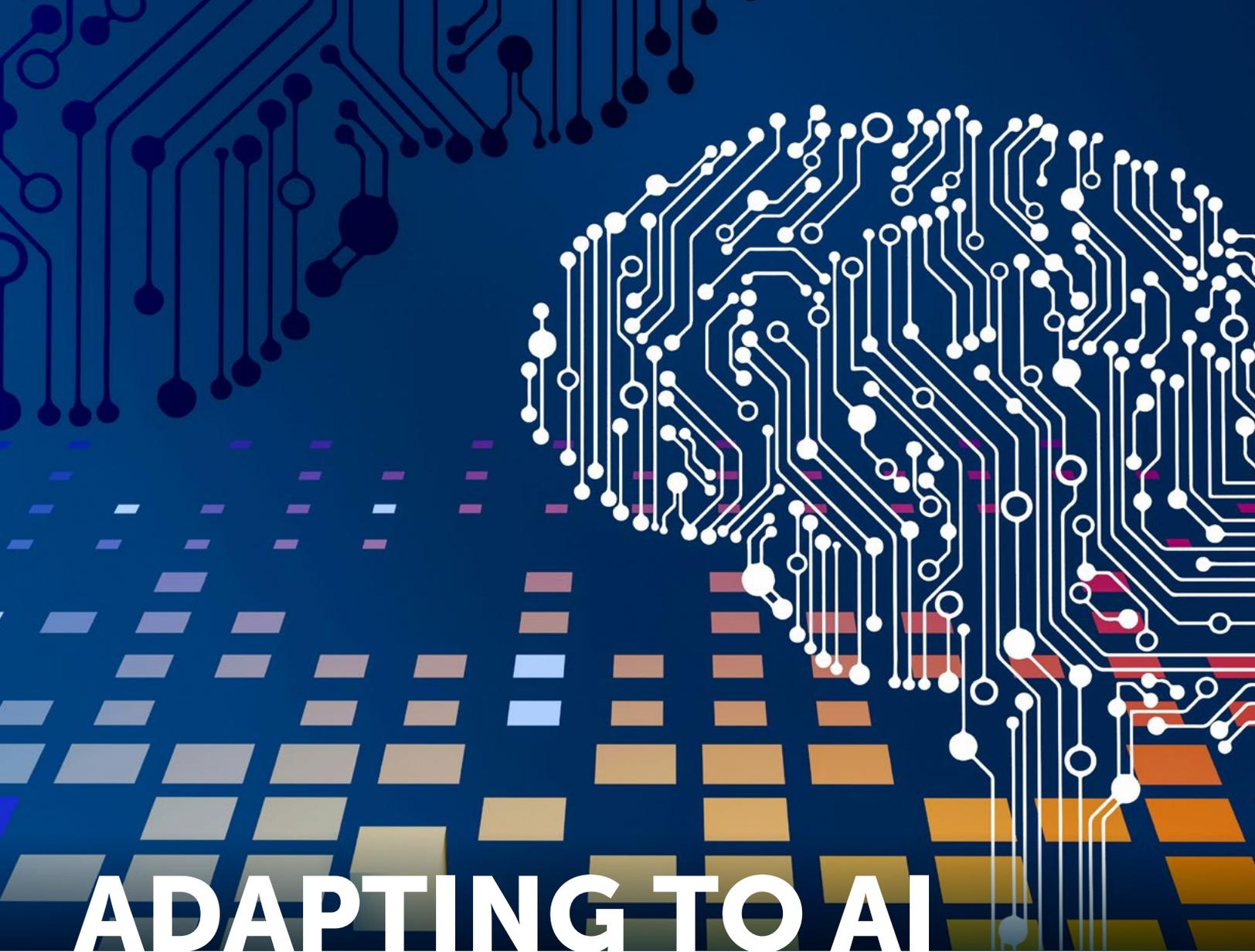
## Centre for Teaching and Learning

Dana Capell, Senior Education Developer

Mitchell Huguenin, Education Developer,  
Indigenous Pedagogy

Vic Mohr-Blakeney (on parental leave until  
November 2024) and Kathryn Milovac, Education  
Developers, Higher Education Teaching &  
Research Recognition Coordinator

Dr. Devon Stillwell, Education Developer,  
SoTL Coordinator



# ADAPTING TO AI

With input from faculty, students, and staff, Teaching and Learning led the effort to create community guidelines for AI use at Trent.  
Photo: Steve Johnson, Unsplash

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) came to town in a big way in November of 2022 with the open-access release of ChatGPT 3.0. Since then, it is fair to say that the post-secondary education sector has been reeling in response, with major concerns relating to pedagogy and academic integrity. Teaching and Learning has been a key player in Trent's response to AI. Immediately after the release of ChatGPT 3.0, we engaged with our instructors to share emerging knowledge of the technology and potential implications and strategies for integrating and managing generative AI's teaching use. We held a series of learning events and provided consultation around course design. Teaching and Learning also took the lead on revising the current Academic Integrity Policy to incorporate AI considerations. Through the fall of

2023, members of the Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee, student advisors, and union representatives worked together to craft a set of guidelines on generative AI's use. Recently adopted, these guidelines provide instructors and students with direction on ethical AI-use, support academic integrity, and provide a common platform for discussing generative AI in our academic programs. This work will continue through support for faculty for course planning and development and maintaining the academic integrity of assessments. We have also been liaising with Academic Skills in revising the materials they provide to students. Stay tuned to your Teaching and Learning channel for ongoing developments in generative artificial intelligence.

# CUSTOMIZING SUPPORTS FOR FACULTY

Central to Teaching and Learning’s mission is providing faculty with tailored support for current questions and classroom challenges. Our eLearning Designers and Education Developers meet regularly with faculty to hear about their experiences and concerns. In response, we create workshops, online resources, and opportunities for course-specific consultations.

## ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATIONS

Sometimes it’s important for faculty to talk one-on-one with someone about the specific opportunities and challenges in their teaching. At any time throughout the year, faculty can **book individual appointments** with an eLearning Designer or Education Developer to discuss course design, instructional, and assessment challenges. We also offer “classroom test runs” at the beginning of each year during which new faculty can meet with Teaching and Learning staff to try out classroom technologies and ask questions about setting up their course Blackboard sites.

## WORKSHOPS AND DEPARTMENTAL VISITS

One of the best ways for instructors to learn about teaching is by talking about it – with each other or with an expert in the field. In 2023, our eLearning Designers and Education Developers visited numerous departmental and faculty meetings to talk about emerging challenges, such as adapting assessments to AI. We also hosted open workshops and panel discussions on diverse topics such as creating teaching portfolios, graduate mentorship, and teaching strategies that promote equity, diversity, and inclusion. Of particular interest to faculty and staff were the workshop series highlighted below:

### Ed Tech Tool Parade

In the Ed Tech Tool Parade series, Trent Online’s eLearning Designers shared some of their favorite complementary tools that they use to enhance the Blackboard experience. Each workshop concentrated on one of these faves: Hypothes.is (for social annotation), H5P (creating interactive eLearning elements), Voicethread (multimedia sharing), Pressbooks (digital self-publishing), Yuja (media streaming), and Padlet (interactive, digital sharing boards). Each workshop was designed to leave instructors with the ability to use these tools in their own teaching.

### First-Year Caucus

In April 2023, the CTL was pleased to reconvene the First-Year Caucus, a group that had been on hiatus since the beginning of the pandemic. In its first meeting, over 50 first-year instructors and academic support staff met to discuss what they have observed in their work with first-year students. Convened at the end of each term, the meetings include a chance for instructors and staff to share successful strategies and challenges in first-year teaching and to hear presentations on recent research into first-year instruction, ideas for incorporating Indigenous pedagogies into first-year courses, as well as new directions in first-year assessments.





## TEACHING NOTES AND ONLINE RESOURCES

After we meet with faculty to discuss particular challenges or strategies, Teaching and Learning works to develop **online resources** that capture some of the shared knowledge, allowing faculty to access information about wise practices in teaching and learning any time. On our website, we host numerous resources on essential topics, such as Open Education, assessment, and Indigenization. In 2023, we also launched a new **Teaching and Learning Resource Hub**, which provides Trent faculty and staff with access to videos of recent workshops and downloadable classroom resources.

Teaching Resources:

- Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education
- Blackboard Faculty Template 2020-21
- Hybrid Teaching Resources
- Indigenization
- Open Educational Resources
- Assessment Resources
- Teaching and Learning Resource Hub

We also provide faculty with guidance and food for thought in *Teaching Notes*, our monthly newsletter. Each issue delves into a current challenge or issue in teaching and learning and provides faculty with a curated set of links to research and resources on that topic. *Teaching Notes* is sent to over 1,000 faculty and staff each month, and we receive positive feedback in response to each issue!

- Issue 46: *A Growth Mindset in Teaching and Learning*
- Issue 45: *The 2023 Teaching and Learning Jolabokaflod*
- Issue 44: *Revisiting the Lecture*
- Issue 43: *What to Do When Teaching Goes Wrong*
- Special Issue: *Honouring The National Day For Truth and Reconciliation*
- Issue 42: *Learning to Live with AI*
- Issue 41: *Using OER? Oh, We Are!*
- Issue 40: *Indigenized Holistic Instruction*
- Issue 39: *Spotlighting Trent's University-Wide Teaching Awards*
- Issue 38: *Have You Heard about SoTL?*
- Issue 37: *The Kawartha Teaching & Tech Day Roundup*
- Issue 36: *Reckoning with Artificial Intelligence*
- Issue 35: *Making Teaching More Accessible*

[trentu.ca/teaching/teaching-notes](https://trentu.ca/teaching/teaching-notes)



"As an instructor who teaches in-person and online, I have found the supports provided by the Centre for Teaching & Learning and Trent Online to be incredibly helpful. I look forward to seeing Teaching Notes land in my inbox each month and know I can reach out for support with open education resources, creating more inclusive course content, and integrating Indigenous pedagogy. The new 'Teaching and Learning Resource Hub' has made it easy to find these resources all in one place." – DR. KRISTY BUCCIERI



# CONTINUING THE COMMITMENT TO INDIGENOUS PEDAGOGY

As part of Trent's longstanding commitment to foster learning environments in which Indigenous Knowledges, thought, and scholarship are validated and respected, Teaching and Learning has continued to promote **Indigenous pedagogies and curricular Indigenization** throughout 2023. Working in collaboration with the Chanie Wenjack School for Indigenous Studies and the First Peoples House of Learning, the CTL's Education Developer for Indigenous Pedagogy has taken a lead role in developing a variety of programs to address the growing needs of instructors and GTAs amidst this important era of truth and reconciliation.

## STARTING THE JOURNEY

Conceived by Professor David Newhouse, Director of the Chanie Wenjack School for Indigenous Studies and 3M Teaching Fellow, the "Starting the Journey" workshop series invited faculty to engage in conversations on integrating Indigenous perspectives into their courses.

Led by the CTL and bolstered by support from the Distinguished Visiting Scholar Fund, this initiative attracted more than 130 Trent faculty members from various disciplines.

The goal of the series was to highlight the exemplary work of Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars in curricular Indigenization, and to inspire and support faculty in overcoming barriers to working with Indigenous Knowledge, thought, and scholarship within their course design and delivery.

Building on the success of the "Starting the Journey" workshop series, we launched a new initiative, "Continuing the Journey," in late 2023. In its initial installment, an expert panel of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Trent scholars shared wise practices for building meaningful relationships with Indigenous peoples.

## TEA & TEACHINGS



The Tea & Teachings professional development series offers a unique and immersive experience for faculty keen on embracing Indigenization within their teaching practices. Hosted seasonally in the university's

traditional area, the sessions allow participants to experience the intimate setting of the tipi. As they sit around the gentle glow of a fire, they engage firsthand with Indigenous facilitators who share cultural teachings and methods for infusing these teachings within a class. Whilst enjoying cedar tea together, faculty cultivate a deeper appreciation for Indigenous perspectives, customs, protocols, and wisdom. This series exemplifies the benefits of creating meaningful spaces for cross-cultural dialogue and learning.

# DISTINGUISHED VISITING TEACHING SCHOLARS

The Distinguished Visiting Teaching Scholars program is facilitated by a generous fund that allows the CTL to bring award-winning faculty to Trent to share innovative teaching ideas and support our community of teaching scholars. In 2023, we were delighted to not only host scholars who appealed to a wide range of Trent instructors, but also to launch a new outreach initiative that allowed departments to host scholars who could provide insight into teaching in their unique discipline. The result was a diverse roster of visiting faculty from across Canada and the United States who held public lectures, conducted workshops, and met with faculty on the Symons and Durham campuses (and virtually as well!).

February 27-28, 2023: Rajiv Jhangiani (Brock University), *Critical, Inclusive, and Open Pedagogies*

June 21, 2023: Isabel Pedersen (Ontario Tech University), *At the Crossroads of Artificial Intelligence: Considering the Implications of AI for Teaching and Learning*.

August 29, 2023: Lisa Fedoruk (University of Calgary), *SoTL, Ethics, and the REB*.

October 3-5, 2023: Melanie Hamilton (University of Saskatchewan), *Reflecting on Curiosities: Exploring the Benefits of Scholarly Teaching in the Post-Secondary Classroom*.

October 10, 2023: Trent Hergenrader (Rochester Institute of Technology), *Workshop on World Building Pedagogy* (hosted in collaboration with the English Department).

October 11, 2023: David Concepcion (Ball State University), *Grading: From Motivation to Equity* (hosted in collaboration with the Philosophy Department).

November 21, 2023: Bonnie Maracle (University of Toronto), *The Seven Grandfathers in Academic Integrity: Further Steps in Indigenizing the Academy*.

## VISITING SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT



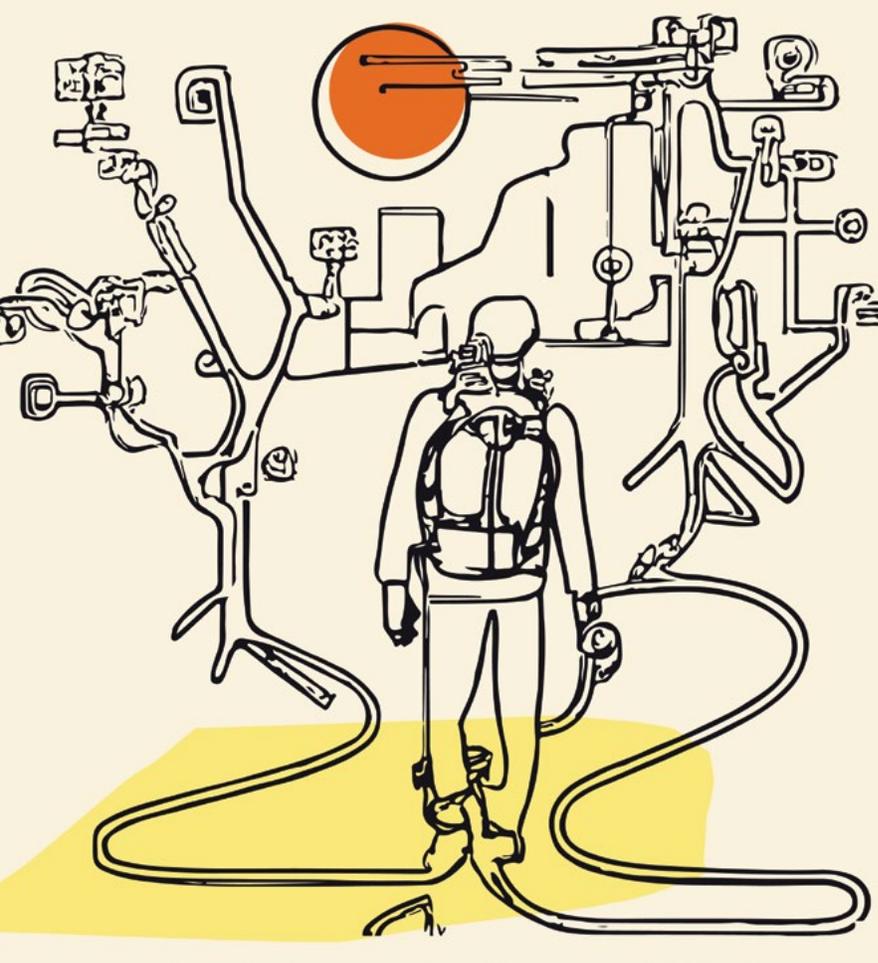
**Dr. Rajiv Jhangiani**, the Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning at Brock University, joined us for two days in February. Rajiv directs the Inclusive Education Research Lab and is an affiliated member of the Social Justice Research Institute. The architect of Canada's first zero textbook

cost degree programs, Rajiv's scholarship focuses on open educational practices, student-centered pedagogies, and ethical approaches to educational technology. While at Trent, Rajiv met with faculty, staff, and administrators to explore ways to promote open education at Trent and delivered a public talk on "Critical, Inclusive, and Open Pedagogies." Our time with Rajiv helped us to ponder how scholarship and practice in critical pedagogy and open educational practices could create more equitable and just higher education practices.



**Dr. Melanie Hamilton**, the Director of the Centre for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) at the University of Saskatchewan, joined us on the Symons campus for three days in October. An experienced SoTL scholar, Melanie consulted with faculty about their

research one-on-one and also conducted small group sessions with faculty on diverse topics related to SoTL. Melanie also delivered a public lecture for all faculty titled "Reflecting on Curiosities: Exploring the Benefits of Scholarly Teaching in the Post-Secondary Classroom." Our time with Melanie enhanced our collective understanding of SoTL and has prompted ongoing efforts to explore the themes from her visit with Trent faculty.



**The 2023 Kawartha Teaching and Tech Conference**

## **NOT ALL THOSE WHO WANDER ARE LOST:**

**Designing Learning Adventures Through Teaching and Tech**

Last held mere moments before the COVID pandemic pivot in March 2020, the Kawartha Teaching and Technology Conference resurfaced in 2023. The organizing committee, comprising members of the CTL and Trent Online as well as Fleming College's Learning Design & Support Team, began planning this event in the summer of 2022. As the day approached, we ended up with another (tiny) pivot to online due to a severe winter weather event. What was planned to be a hybrid event became a last minute synchronous online event.

Despite these difficulties, KTT 2023 was a resounding success. We began the day with "Is it Even an Adventure?" a student keynote panel, with representatives from both Fleming College and Trent. The panelists pushed back on our "learning adventure" theme, sharing their thoughts and critiques of their learning experiences, especially during the pandemic pivot. The good news is that according to these students, yes, sometimes learning can be a fun adventure.

A series of 29 separate sessions followed, featuring talks by students, faculty, and staff from Trent and other institutions across Ontario and beyond. Also presenting were sponsor representatives from Hypothes.is and Pressbook. Session topics were wide and varied, but all had a focus on enhancing learning with educational technologies.

To complete the day, we returned together for an exceptional keynote talk from the University of New Mexico's Dr. Stephanie Moore entitled "Moral Imagination for Educational Technology: Weaving Ethical Considerations into Instructional Specifications." Dr. Moore drew from her experience co-authoring the wonderful new text *Ethics and Educational Technology* to demonstrate how, through an ethical and moral lens, we can find joy and excitement in teaching and learning.

With the return of the KTT in 2023, we are excited to move forward into a new pattern of event-hosting, with plans to alternate the Kawartha Teaching and Tech Conference and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Symposium each year.

# SUPPORTING THE SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING & LEARNING

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) is an interdisciplinary, scholarly study of the theory and practice of effective teaching and learning. It's also how we develop and share that good practice with colleagues.

The Centre for Teaching and Learning supports a robust SoTL program that includes faculty from across the university.

## TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS

The Trent Teaching Fellowship program supports faculty projects in curriculum design and research in teaching and learning. In 2023, we had 10 active projects that included 13 faculty investigators. Current fellowships include projects in course and program re-design; inquiry into the potential of peer-assessment; the development of podcast episodes for a history course; and a critical Wikipedia project.

In 2023, Dr. Elizabeth Russell was awarded a fellowship to pursue "Developing an Intergenerational Classroom Model at Trent University," a project that aims to reduce ageism by developing and evaluating an intergenerational classroom model within a Trent psychology course.

## WICKERSON FOUNDATION FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND DESIGN

The past year marked the fifth and final year of grant funding through the Wickerson Foundation Fund for Educational Leadership and Universal Design. In total, the Fund launched 12 Universal Design for Learning (UDL) projects involving 22 Trent faculty.

In 2023, Wickerson funding underwrote three innovative projects specifically for trauma-informed pedagogy. Dr. Kristy Buccieri and Dr. Beth Needham crafted an online trauma-informed toolkit for a criminology course, while Dr. Ann Celestini and Dr. Amy Hallaran explored the links between UDL and trauma-informed pedagogy within an introductory nursing course. Professor Kim English is also re-thinking the nursing curriculum to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge and perspectives.

In addition, we were able to support two Wickerson Foundation Fund projects on UDL this year: Dr. Shannon Accettone's "Working Towards an Inclusive and Barrier-Free Laboratory Experience" and Dr. Holly Bates and Dr. Sarah West's "MindMatters Mini-Sessions (3Ms): Empowering Minds, Boosting Wellness, and Excelling Academics."

Learn more:

[trentu.ca/teaching/research/fellowships-grants](https://trentu.ca/teaching/research/fellowships-grants)

## SCHOLARS' TABLE PROGRAM

The Scholars' Table program was renewed this year, creating a community of practice for our Teaching Fellows, Wickerson Foundation Fund recipients, and teaching intensive faculty. We held an introductory goal-setting meeting in May, which was a wonderful opportunity to bring together faculty who are passionate about teaching and learning. Other gatherings included sessions on "SoTL, Ethics, and the REB," tailored workshops with Dr. Melanie Hamilton, and "Trials and Errors: Lessons from the Fall Semester."



# EXCELLENCE IN E-LEARNING DESIGN & ONLINE PEDAGOGY

24,013

STUDENTS ENROLMENTS  
IN 305 ONLINE COURSES  
IN 2023

28

NEW ONLINE COURSES  
FOR 2023 + 4 SPECIAL  
PROJECTS

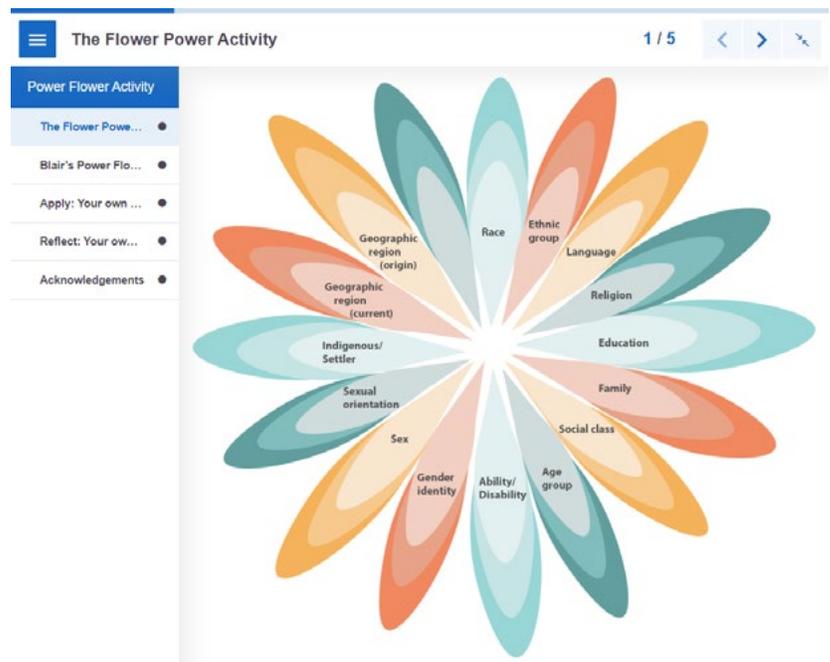
GLOBAL OPEN  
EDUCATION AWARD

2X WINNER  
4X FINALIST

## TRENT ONLINE'S PURPOSE

Trent Online produces bespoke online learning experiences for Trent University students. Typically, but not exclusively, these are asynchronous online courses built in Blackboard. This approach gives students and faculty the freedom of time and space to do their work where and when is best for them. This flexibility is beneficial to students who cannot attend classes on campus and is helpful in rounding out a full schedule of otherwise face-to-face classes. As a team, we take pride in providing a different style of learning opportunity to our students and getting creative with it as we go.

Online learning development often takes a close look at three types of interaction: student-content, student-faculty, and student-student. Using educational technologies to provide an engaging mix of these types of interactions is central to our work. As such, we make heavy use of the Blackboard Learning Management System as well as some favorite complementary platforms that enhance these interactions and make them more engaging.



Above: From an Education course. An interactive H5P book activity walked participants through the process of considering and reflecting on one's social justice identity. The H5P interactive allowed participants to download and save the results of their work and submit it for feedback.

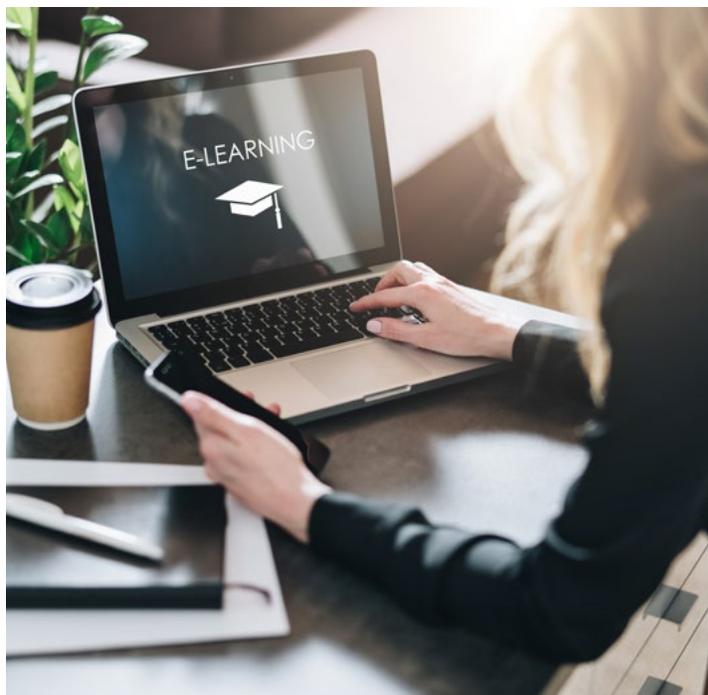
## COURSE DEVELOPMENTS IN 2023

In 2023, Trent Online produced 28 new online courses as well as four additional special projects in support of partner departments. Each of these developments was completed in close partnership with faculty members and other subject matter experts who shared their expertise in an accessible and engaging way.

### Online Course Developments Completed in 2023

Each of these courses provides an intuitive mix of accessible engagements, including custom-made videos, podcasts, infographics, e-books, and many other embedded interactive elements:

Financial Management  
Anthropology of Animation  
Histories of the Canadian North  
Professionalism and Ethics  
Multimedia and Design  
Sexed Violence  
The Politics of Incarceration  
Doing Crime and Doing Time: Advanced Research Methods  
Criminalizing Sexuality  
Applied Criminology Virtual Practicum  
Philosophy of Education  
Introduction to Statistics for Economics and Management  
Economics of Industrial Relations  
Forensic Toxicology  
Canada's People & Places  
Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World  
World History to 1800  
Nurse as Clinician 1  
Clinician Specialized  
Transition to Professional Practice  
Nurse as Clinician 2  
Critical Perspectives on Aging  
Biomedical Ethics  
Legal Research Methods  
Sociology of Law  
Social Work and Aging  
Queering Social Work



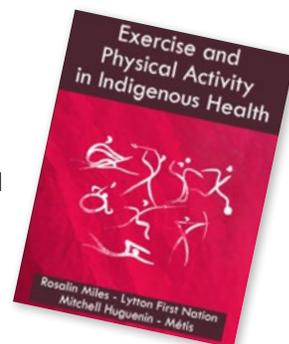
### Special Projects in 2023

**Academic Integrity Module:** Updated to embed considerations for Academic Integrity in the age of artificial intelligence.

**Animal Care Module:** An online module to prepare students, GTAs and faculty to work with animals in research, field, and educational settings.

**Online Teaching Community Site:** A meta online learning experience that aims to support an online learning community of practice at Trent.

**Exercise and Physical Activity in Indigenous Health Pressbook:** An Open Educational Resource **freely available** to anyone. Also, an Open Education Global award finalist.



## AWARD-WINNING PEDAGOGY



Left: "Understanding Homelessness in Canada: From the Street to the Classroom" creators at the OLC Innovate Awards Gala in Nashville, Tennessee.

Teaching and Learning at Trent was proud to be a part of Virtual Learning Strategy projects that earned three Global Awards and two finalist shortlist appearances.

### *The Liberated Learner*

#### **2022 Award for Best Open Educational Resource**



The Best OER award recognizes high-quality innovative teaching and learning materials openly available online for everyone to use, reuse, revise, remix and redistribute. The Liberated Learner was co-designed by students, faculty and staff at Trent University, Brock University, Seneca College,

University of Windsor, McMaster University, Cambrian College, and Nipissing University. The program works to prepare learners to be better able to learn in a digital realm through four modules: The Learner, The Navigator, The Collaborator, and The Technologist. Taken together, the modules aim to enable a well-rounded and ready-for-almost-anything post-secondary learner. For Learners. By Learners.

#### **2022 Finalist for Open Collaboration**

A collaborative inter-institutional project, co-designed by students, faculty, and staff at seven post-secondary institutions in Ontario with the purpose of preparing students to thrive while entering higher education.

### *Understanding Homelessness in Canada: From the Street to the Classroom*

#### **2023 Award for Excellence in Online and Blended Learning Innovation**

The Online Learning Consortium recognizes new and imaginative practices or approaches impacting the quality, effectiveness, and equity of online, blended, or digital learning among the global community. This resource is a combination of recorded interviews with leading researchers and co-authorship of people with lived homelessness experience.

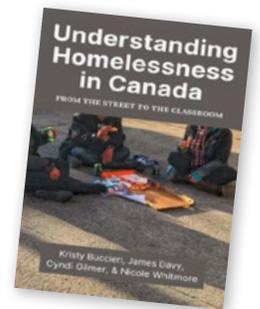
#### **2023 Award for Significant Impact OER**

This award recognizes high-quality, innovative teaching and learning materials openly shared that have also demonstratively had a major impact on accessibility, distribution, remix, learning, or social change. This Pressbook has been used as an online course, open-access textbook, video and podcast series, and professional development resource.

### *Exercise and Physical Activity in Indigenous Health*

#### **2023 Finalist for Open Collaboration**

This Pressbook aims to help learners develop a cultural awareness of Indigenous health and has served as an example of a decolonial pedagogical approach to both collaboration and learning.





# THE BRIDGE PROGRAM

The summer of 2023 marked the sixth offering of our Bridge Program, a unique opportunity designed to support high-priority students in their transition to university. A collaborative project of Teaching and Learning, Student Affairs, and the School of Education, the Bridge provides students entering with lower academic averages, along with those who self-identify as Indigenous, First Generation, or living with a disability, a head-start on their education. Bridge students complete a university course that introduces them to ways of knowing in the humanities and social sciences or sciences in a special, compressed 14-day August term. During their studies, students not only access a complement of wrap-around supports to help them adjust to the academic demands and social life of university, but they earn a half-credit that counts toward their university degree!

Since moving to an online format in 2021, the Bridge Program has seen continual growth in enrollment, especially within our high-priority populations. In 2023, the program expanded to offer four sections of Bridge courses, allowing students to learn in small groups and enjoy individual attention from faculty.

The Bridge Program also continues to provide a unique learning environment that draws on innovative pedagogies to help support student learning. Over the past two years, Bridge instructors worked alongside eLearning Designers, Technologists, and a Multimedia Specialist to completely redesign our Bridge courses for the online environment. Bridge Students also engaged in a unique, interdisciplinary “skills lab,” that encouraged them to experiment with and develop the academic and personal skills needed for success in university.



## SUPPORTING GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) play a pivotal role in undergraduate education at Trent. Whether they are leading small-group discussions during a tutorial, facilitating a laboratory experiment, or providing feedback on students’ work, GTAs act as essential mentors and supports to student learning.

However, many GTAs come to their work with little formal training in teaching. The CTL is pleased to support GTAs’ growth as teachers through a full complement of workshops and resources. In 2023, we launched a re-designed orientation program that includes a new, online “GTA Training Site” and a full-day synchronous Orientation session.

GTAs who completed both parts of the orientation as well as a written reflection and goal-setting activity earned a “Introduction to Graduate Teaching” micro-credential, a provincially-recognized achievement recognized by academic institutions, employers, and hiring managers.

Supports for GTAs don’t end after orientation. Throughout the year, the CTL offers GTAs many **professional development opportunities**, including monthly lunch-and-learns on a diverse range of pedagogical issues, professional learning days during Reading Week, and an advanced Graduate Teaching Certificate for GTAs seeking to engage with the scholarship of teaching and learning.

# TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEES

Teaching and Learning benefits from the guidance of several committees. Comprised of faculty, students, and staff, these committees review and make recommendations on teaching and learning

resources, read and score countless nominations, and make decisions on Trent's internal teaching awards. We are indebted to our committee members for their time, effort, and excellent counsel.

## Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee\*

Fergal O'Hagan, Chair  
Kristy Buccieri, Chair  
Elise Dingman, Secretary, non-voting  
Shannon Accettone  
Wesley Burr  
Dana Capell  
Ayman El-Amir  
Terry Greene  
Emily Johnston  
William Kim  
George Kovacs  
Marcus Nieva  
Sarah Rayner  
Erin Stewart Eves  
Shay Surujnarain  
Emily Tufts  
Sarah Twomey  
Deborah White  
Sue Wurtele

## 2022-2023 Senate Teaching Awards Subcommittee

Wesley Burr, Chair  
Vic Mohr-Blakeney, Secretary, non-voting  
Mark Astrom  
Michael Epp  
Terry Jackman  
Meaghan Kemp  
William Kim  
Victoria Osso  
Paula Sherman

## 2022-2023 CUPE 3908-1 Award for Excellence in Teaching Selection Committee

Mark Astrom, Chair  
Vic Mohr-Blakeney, Secretary, non-voting  
Brent Bellamy  
Terry Jackman  
Sarah Rayner  
Shay Surujnarain  
Shaoling Wang

## 2022-2023 Award for Excellence in Online Teaching Selection Committee

Fergal O'Hagan, Chair  
Vic Mohr-Blakeney, Secretary, non-voting  
Josh Andrews  
Brent Bellamy  
Terry Greene  
Lorna Phan  
Kimberly Ritchie  
Mollie Schnurr

\* This list includes members from the 2022-2023 and the 2023-2204 Committees



**"Working with Trent Online was a fantastic experience. They took any creative idea I had and were able to make it a reality – and the execution of those ideas was even better than what I initially imagined." – DR. BETH TORRENS**

# CELEBRATING UNIVERSITY-WIDE AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

The 2022-2023 award year was marked by tremendous growth as the university-wide awards received more individual nominations for more individual faculty and staff as compared to any previous year.

**5** TEACHING AWARDS

**401** NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED

**174** CANDIDATES NOMINATED

## **Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching**

***Dr. Elizabeth Russell, Psychology***



Elizabeth Russell was recognized for her energetic lecture style, caring encouragement, passion for teaching, and dedication to mentorship, all of which inspired her students to do their very best work. Through her role as

Director of the Trent Centre for Aging and Society, Dr. Russell has led the creation of the TCAS Knowledge Mobilization Hub, a platform to share academic, aging-based research with non-academic audiences as well as the Masters in Interdisciplinary Aging Studies, a new graduate program which, in true Trent fashion, brings together academic research with hands-on, experiential learning.

## **Award for Educational Leadership and Innovation**

***Dr. Jennifer Newton, Anthropology***



Jennifer Newton was recognized for her extraordinary innovation at the course and department levels. Dr. Newton has worked diligently to create innovative and equitable learning experiences for anthropology students

across both campuses, including developing unique teaching materials for hands-on learning opportunities by Durham students and spearheading Trent University's involvement in a new archeological project in Costa Rica.

## **Award for Educational Leadership and Innovation**

***Dr. Kirk Hillsley, Biology***



Kirk Hillsley was recognized for his pedagogical innovations at the course and department levels. Professor Hillsley substantially revised and updated over six courses, while developing four new biology courses. He worked with

a subcommittee to propose the creation of a new introductory biology course geared to non-science majors with the goal of improving scientific literacy among all students.

## **Award for Excellence in Online Teaching**

***Dr. Erick Laming, Sociology***



Erick Laming was recognized for his dynamic and engaging teaching style, which helped students to connect more deeply to course materials. Professor Laming supported student learning by using a variety of teaching materials to

foster multiple modes of student engagement and showed innovation in his approach to assessments in his use of Padlet and hidden hints and clues embedded in his course design.

**CUPE 3908-1 Award for Excellence in Teaching**  
**Dr. Mary-Claire Buell, Indigenous Environmental Studies and Sciences**



Mary-Claire Buell was recognized for her ability to explain clearly theories of knowledge, for facilitating collaboration between Indigenous and Western knowledge systems, and for supporting students as they navigated barriers and overcame resistance. Engaging and approachable in her teaching style, she has encouraged students' curiosity and responded quickly and actively to students' needs.

**Award for Excellence in Teaching Assistance**  
**William Kim, Biology**



William Kim, a Ph.D. candidate in Environmental and Life Sciences and a Teaching Assistant in Biology, was championed for his exceptional support for students' learning. Both students and faculty recognized the ways in which Mr. Kim made labs interactive and circulated to every student to make sure they understood the material, supporting them with clear and varied explanations of complex concepts.



**DECANAL AWARDS FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE & OUTSTANDING GRADUATE MENTORSHIP**

2022-2023 marked the second year of the Decanal Awards, which celebrate teaching excellence in a particular course and recognize the use of innovative methods of curriculum design, course instruction, learning materials, or assessment. The School of Graduate Studies Awards for Outstanding Graduate

Mentorship recognizes senior and early career faculty who inspire and challenge their students toward excellent and creative scholarship and support their students' development of critical skills and professional competencies

**7** AWARDS

**158** FACULTY MEMBERS NOMINATED

**317** NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED

### Teaching Excellence in Education

**Dr. Kelly Young, Education**



In their heartfelt testimonials, nominators recognized the ways in which Professor Young continually developed effective teaching strategies and demonstrated excellent pedagogy. They highlighted her ability to support exploration and learning in the classroom through a supportive and uplifting teaching style.

### Trent Durham GTA Award for Teaching Excellence

**Dr. Brenda Smith-Chant, Psychology**



Professor Smith-Chant received many nominations that spoke of her positive and constructive feedback, innovative learning materials, and ability to promote student engagement.

### Teaching Excellence in Nursing

**Kinza Malik, Nursing**



Trent/Fleming School of Nursing instructor Kinza Malik received heartfelt nominations, which commended her in-depth assessments, use of concept maps, and overall pedagogical approach, which inspired and facilitated student learning.

### Teaching Excellence in the Sciences

**Dr. Wesley Burr, Mathematics**



Professor Burr received glowing nominations that spoke to how he makes himself available to students and supports their academic growth. They lauded Prof. Burr's innovative teaching methods and supportive pedagogical approach.

### Teaching Excellence in the Humanities and Social Sciences

**Dean Howley, Trent School of Business**



Professor Howley, an instructor in the Trent School of Business, received numerous heartfelt nominations, which highlighted his dedication to supporting student learning, his passion for teaching, and his ability to engage and inspire students, encouraging them to connect course content to real-life applications.

### School of Graduate Studies Award for Outstanding Graduate Mentorship for New Mentors

**Dr. Kateryna Keefer, Psychology**



In their glowing testimonials, graduate students recognized the ways in which Professor Keefer supports student learning, fosters critical thinking, and helps students to become effective scholars. Nominations also celebrated the generous manner with which she shares her time and expertise as a mentor and the ways in which she encourages her students to deepen their understanding of their own abilities.

### School of Graduate Studies Award for Outstanding Graduate Mentorship for Senior Mentors

**Dr. David M.K. Sheinin, History**



Nominators recognized Professor David Sheinin's approach to mentorship, which demonstrates genuine support for students, helping them to build confidence in their own abilities and pursue academic work within and outside of Trent and contributes to their development as scholars.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

As part of the Trent Community, Teaching and Learning plays an essential role in students' professional development through meaningful employment experiences. In 2023, we benefited from the work of 14 student employees who provided vital assistance to our awards program, GTA supports, events, and online course developments. Fully integrated into our team, student employees enhanced their understanding of professional collaboration by attending weekly team meetings and monthly inter-departmental meetings. They worked closely and met weekly with their supervisors, receiving detailed feedback on their work to enhance their professional communication and technical skills. Finally, we were excited to provide our student employees with training in a range of educational technologies, including developing Blackboard sites, Yuja, Pressbooks, Hypothesis, and H5P. Our goal is to

create a mutually-beneficial employment experience, one in which our student employees contribute to our work in meaningful ways while developing professional skills that will support their career growth.

Teaching and Learning also works to engage and share knowledge with secondary-school educators, especially those in the Peterborough and Durham regions. In 2023, we were pleased to make generative AI a focus of this sharing, as we met with educational consultants, student success coaches, IT specialists, and high school teachers at schools in our region. Through these meetings, we worked to create a common understanding of the potential benefits and challenges of generative AI and wise practices in supporting the ethical use of AI in teaching and learning.

## MEET THE STUDENT TEAM



### Trent Online

- Jessica Dawson, Online Course Transcription Editor
- Njoki Muriithi, Online Course Developer Assistant
- Lorna Phan, Online Course Transcription Editor
- Kristy Rath, Data Engineer Co-op
- Esther Schachter, Online Course Developer Assistant
- Mollie Schnurr, Online Course Developer Assistant

### Centre for Teaching and Learning

- Alex Adenuga, Awards Program Support
- Robyn Hawthorne, Awards Program Support
- Jessica Malcolm, Awards Program Assistant
- Ainsley Mohns, Awards Program Assistant
- Roxana Niksefat, Awards Program Support
- Meghana Ullasan, Research Assistant
- Meghan Ward, Research Assistant
- Aya Yagnaya, Research Assistant





# TEACHING & LEARNING IN THE NEWS

## **Getting Feedback Right: Ph.D. Candidate Looks to Systematize Improvements to Online Learning**

February 24, 2023: Interdisciplinary Social Research student Christian Metaxas finds inspiration for social research in his work at Trent Online. Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/36055](https://trentu.ca/news/story/36055)

## **Trent University Announces 2022/23 Distinguished Research and Symons Teaching Award Winners**

April 5, 2023: Recipients to be recognized alongside all 2022/23 faculty award winners at Celebration of Faculty Excellence May 3. Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/36485](https://trentu.ca/news/story/36485)

## **"Talking Textbook" on Homelessness Wins International Innovation Award for Trent University Team**

April 24, 2023: Free online resource developed at Trent aims to increase understanding of homelessness in Canada. Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/36583](https://trentu.ca/news/story/36583)

## **Trent University to Welcome New Dean of Education**

May 2, 2023: Dr. Sarah Twomey brings nearly two decades of experience in teacher education spanning primary, secondary, and postsecondary levels, supported by a strong foundation of undergraduate and graduate degrees in Education. Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/36633](https://trentu.ca/news/story/36633)

## **Faculty Recognized for Exceptional Teaching and Research Achievements**

May 3, 2023: Record number of nominations highlight the exceptional contributions of faculty members at Trent University. Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/36679](https://trentu.ca/news/story/36679)

## **Momentous Campaign Ambassador Wins Teaching Award**

May 4, 2023: Alumnus and Ph.D. candidate William Kim '15 takes home Award for Excellence in Teaching Assistance during the annual Celebration of Faculty Excellence in Teaching and Research. Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/36681](https://trentu.ca/news/story/36681)

## **Heart of Trent Recognizes Outstanding Contributions of Staff, Faculty, Retirees**

May 10, 2023: Dana Capell, Senior Education Developer, Trent Centre for Teaching & Learning, was awarded the Nancy E. Simmons Smith Staff Award of Excellence for demonstrating excellence and exceptional commitment to Trent. Learn more: [trentu.ca/story/36707](https://trentu.ca/story/36707)

# THE AI LEARNING CURVE



Dana Capell and Terry Greene are leading the conversation around the AI boom as Trent faculty members prepare to head back into the classroom.

## **A Delicate Balance: The AI Learning Curve in Post-Secondary Education**

July 18, 2023: Trent's Centre for Teaching & Learning guides educators on navigating the AI boom.

Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/37173](https://trentu.ca/news/story/37173)

## **At the Intersection of Pedagogy and Podcasts: Fostering New Methods and Accessible Knowledge**

August 21, 2023: Terry Greene explores the value of putting people first with multi-directional education.

Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/37313](https://trentu.ca/news/story/37313)



## **2023 Decanal Awards Celebrate Teaching and Mentorship at Trent University**

September 11, 2023: Trent's Centre for Teaching and Learning recognizes outstanding faculty members for their impact on student success. Learn more:

[trentu.ca/news/story/37683](https://trentu.ca/news/story/37683)

## **Continuing the Journey of Indigenizing Education at Trent University**

September 28, 2023: Innovative professional development series invites faculty to engage in conversations on integrating Indigenous Knowledge into their courses.

Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/37875](https://trentu.ca/news/story/37875)

## **Creativity From Constraints: Student Intern Helps to Refine Online Course Development**

October 11, 2023: Computer Science student Kristy Rath works with Trent Online to develop more robust administrative dashboard.

Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/37995](https://trentu.ca/news/story/37995)

## **Incorporating Generative AI as Problem-Solving Tools**

December 14, 2023: Through a new second-year Geography course, eLearning Designer Christian Metaxas and Dr. Heather Nicol encourage applying a critical lens to technology use.

Learn more: [trentu.ca/news/story/38675](https://trentu.ca/news/story/38675)



“Learning should never be a one-way street. It’s not just about professors imparting knowledge to students. Education should foster a multidirectional flow of ideas, experiences, and insights.”

– TERRY GREENE, Senior eLearning Designer

The Centre for Teaching and Learning and Trent Online  
are sister units under Teaching & Learning at Trent.

**[trentu.ca/teaching](http://trentu.ca/teaching)**

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