DISTANCE LEARNING & INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGIES

e-learning

UNT DALLAS
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS AT DALLAS

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Year 1, Number 11

NDLW

NATIONAL DISTANCE

LEARNING WEEK
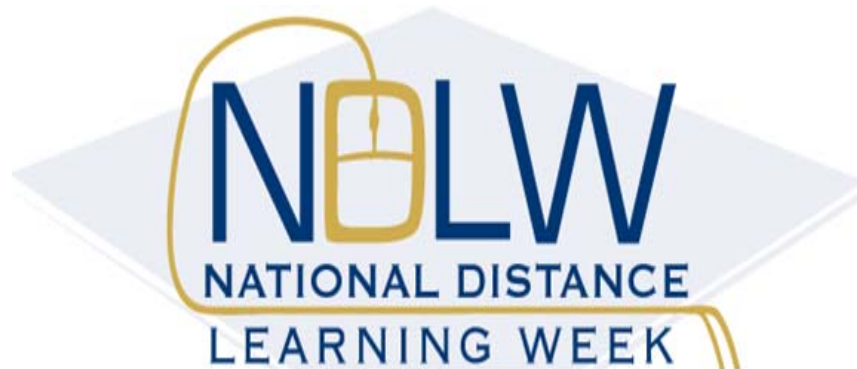
According to the **United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA)**, "There is a growing transformation in education, and it's called distance learning … using the latest technology to help students learn, distance learning stimulates you in ways a simple lecture can't."

This is certainly the case at UNT Dallas where students are surrounded by opportunities to connect through technology both in and out of the classroom. UNT Dallas offers hybrid and fully online courses, but also integrates technology into the more traditional classroom setting, in addition to a variety of student support.

To celebrate this transformation in education, the Office of Distance Learning and Instructional Technology will host during next week several webinars and events to highlight the different ways technology helps students connect, learn and succeed.

UNT Dallas Celebrates National Distance Learning Week (Nov 9 – 13)

National Distance Learning Week is next week, November 9 – 13 and it's sponsored by the United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA). This is a time to raise awareness of and celebrate distance learning around the country. Throughout the week, USDLA is sponsoring a series of *free* webinars on various distance learning topics to educate everyone on the growth in distance learning and showcase local accomplishments. Go to the National Distance Learning Week website to view the Schedule of Webinar Events; however, there is no need to register since the Office of DLIT is already registered as an institution. **JOIN us** in participating in the following webinars in Founders Hall, Rooms 122 and/or 127 accordingly to your personal interest!

...COMING NEXT WEEK!

Monday, November 9, 2015

9:00am
Accessibility and Usability in Online Courses
Presented by: Cecelia Green (Quality Matters)
Founders Hall, Rooms 122 & 127
Creating quality accessible courses for every learner is a very important part of course design. So important in fact that it is addressed in the Quality Matters Rubric, General Standard 8: Accessibility and Usability.   Quality Matters (QM) is pleased to bring you this presentation about Accessibility and Usability in Online Courses as part of USDLA's National Distance Learning Week. You will leave with a better understanding about the issues learners will encounter concerning accessibility and usability and why it is important to design courses with all learners in mind. The presentation is intended for a broad audience, including but not limited to faculty, instructional designers, administrators, and adjunct instructors who want to understand more about accessibility of online course.

12:00pm
Discover The Latest Mobile Learning & Collaboration Technology
Presented by: Derek Lundsten (CEO, Scrimmage)
Corporate Learning is being impacted with complex initiatives and higher expectations to grow results. By implementing the latest mobile technology, this Webinar explores how to take your learning initiatives to the next level. New learning paradigms, along with the latest mobile training innovations will be showcased, including social collaboration tools, interactive gamification features and pro-active coaching methods that can be accessed on any device anywhere, anytime. Our goal is to increase learner engagement & knowledge retention, as well as improve how employees collaborate, compete and, in turn, obtain new levels of performance. Join us for an inspired, informative and fun program.
Founders Hall, Rooms 122 & 127

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

9:00am
Keep Them Begging for More: Professional Development That Matters
Presented by: Dr. Roseann Torsiello and Barbara Monaghan (Berkeley College)
How do we keep online faculty up-to-date in the ever-changing world of online learning? Through the incorporation of creative, emerging technologies such as asynchronous and real-time webinars, electronic surveys, interactive content and audio distribution software, we created a faculty-focused microsite that develops faculty administratively and pedagogically. Our presentation will focus on the implementation of these tools and their role in cultivating online faculty, moving them from the role of "isolated practitioner" to the role of "engaged instructional designer." Features of this session will include: introduction to emerging technologies that enhance faculty support, showcasing several webinar highlights and modeling of our microsite. A timeline of steps will be explained and templates distributed as participant takeaways.
Founders Hall, Rooms 122 & 127

10:00am
OERs – The Perspective of the Designer
Presented by: Dénes Zarka, ICT-enhanced learning designer, EDEN
Designing innovative and sustainable curriculum with ICT enhanced learning tools is a new challenge for teachers, trainers and adult educators. Professionals supporting these innovative services at learning institutions contribute

to developing professional identity, self-esteem, and self-potential. Online learning and open educational resources meet these needs and offer solutions for innovative, quality work–based learning curriculum design. On the way to useful, enjoyable and most of all working solutions for learning, learning designers meet obstacles, problems and do their best to overcome and solve these. In Europe, professors, teachers and learning designers strive to collaborate via open learning and open movement to solve issues, or create new paths and resources together for better learning.

This webinar focuses on the problems and solutions of a learning designer in the context of open learning. Denes Zarka (EDEN and Budapest University of Technology and Economics) will explore what "open" stands for in the context of learning resources and present various models for the use and re-use of Open Educational Resources (OERs). Denes will tell you why he designs open content and also why others design open content. You will learn about sustainable models for OERs and you can think together with other participants and Denes on questions like "is a free course a MOOC already?" or if a free presentation can be considered an OER.

Founders Hall, Rooms 122 & 127

12:00pm
CBE: Employers and Employability (Pearson)
Presented by: Ed Sargent, Project Director PACE-IT, VP of Workforce
Development /Training – Edmonds Community College
Mary Hendrix, Ph.D, Vice President Student Access & Success Texas Affordable
Baccalaureate Program, Texas A&M University
Competency-based learning can help improve the connection between a college degree or certification and employment. But forging this important connection requires closer working relationships between higher education institutions offering CBE programs and local and national employers. Join this webinar to learn more about strategies for developing employer partnerships and increasing the employability of graduates from CBE programs.
Founders Hall, Room 122

12:00pm
UNTD Distance Learning Showcase
Presented by: DLIT Staff
This is the main event during NDLW where the office of Distance Learning and Instructional Technologies seeks to promote and celebrate the tremendous growth and accomplishments occurring to date in distance learning at UNT Dallas. Share the excitement of distance learning with your peers and colleagues at UNT Dallas. This overview session will take participants through various distance learning topics of importance at UNT Dallas. It will demonstrate the variety of learning strategies and educational technologies used and present a sampling of innovative resources that may be implemented in other courses/programs. During this session, we'll be talking about online quality assurance as our office has adopted new quality standards and course module template items to add to each distance learning course that will be taught next semester, this session will alleviate some of this burden off you, we would like to assist you in adding them to your online course. We'll also highlight the types of videos for teaching and learning that DLIT can assist you with. Videos have incredible potential to engage students in teaching and learning. Faculty will get the opportunity to see all the different options and techniques available for them to incorporate video to their courses, whether it's for the use in the traditional classroom, hybrid, or online. This is an excellent opportunity to see how video can create a social presence in an online classroom setting and how faculty can engage their students. And finally, we'll talk on some of the characteristics of our online learners and their expectations of use of the LMS as part of their online experience.
Founders Hall, Rm 306

Lunch provided but limited to 12 seats. **Email** us to reserve your seat TODAY!

10:00am
Time to Assess Learning Outcomes in E-Learning – the TALOE Web Tool
Presented by: TALOE project Representatives
The TALOE web tool is developed to help teachers and trainers decide on the assessment strategies to use in their online courses. The tool is envisaged to be used by teachers either to check if the existing assessment methods of their course or module are in line with the stated learning outcomes or to be advised on the most appropriate assessment methods for a new course or module. The decision engine is based on the ALOA (Aligning Learning Outcomes and Assessment) model and consists in the estimation of a score as a measure of the best matching between the cognitive processes submitted by the user and the specific ones of a given assessment method. The web platform also provides support and guidance to teachers to formulate the learning outcomes in accordance with Bloom taxonomy increasing this way the accuracy of the outcome received from the tool.
During the webinar, the presenters will demonstrate the tool, and talk about the ALOA conceptual model that highlights the connection between the intended learning outcomes and the assessment strategy used during a course.
Founders Hall, Room 127

10:30am
Distance Learning Resources in Telehealth
Presented by: Janet Major, Associate Director for Facilities, Arizona Telemedicine Program (Arizona Health Sciences Center) USDLA Board Member, Telehealth
Learn how experts in telemedicine produce events which are clinical and educational. Get a great list of resources that are available both nationally and in your home state. There are a multitude of outstanding grant opportunities specifically for telehealth applications and you can maximize your resources by combining applications to deliver both health services and education.
Founders Hall, Room 122

12:00pm
Virtual Presence: Inspire and Engage in the Virtual Classroom and Beyond
Presented by: Kate Nugent, Facilitator and Director of Product & Training, The Ariel Group
In the virtual medium, great content can easily be sabotaged by a presenter's low energy, irritating vocal qualities or general inability to engage and excite their audience. Whether presenting online to hundreds via webinar, facilitating a small virtual classroom workshop, or phone conferencing with team members and direct reports, the most effective training leaders and facilitators harness their virtual presence to authentically connect with the hearts and minds of others for maximum impact.
Founders Hall, Rooms 122 & 127

1:00pm
USDLA Chapter Program Overview
Presented by: Ken Conn (USDLA)
This session will focus on the USDLA Chapter Program. We will review the purpose, benefits, resources, and upcoming USDLA Chapter events. You will also have the opportunity to learn with various Chapter leaders who will share their experiences.
Founders Hall, Rooms 122 & 127

9:00AM
Company's Coming. Get Out The Good China!
Presented by: Pam Birtolo and Amy McGrath (Global Personalized Academics)
Educational providers have a unique opportunity to reach beyond the formerly well-established boundary of countries to intersect with global markets in a mutually beneficial way. Join Pam Birtolo, Chief Academic Officer and Amy McGrath, Director of Instruction at Global Personalized Academics (GPA), for a chat as they exemplify efficiencies and innovations with curriculum and instructional models in the international market. This session will look toward the future of using next gen teaching/learning models to expand an educational provider's global market appeal. The burgeoning global stage provides new opportunities to shift pedagogy from the traditional methods of the factory model into the more student-centric approaches used by next generation teaching and learning. Through the merging of established traditions with new opportunities and perspectives, global markets can begin to see fast results without the recursive honing typically seen when an innovation bubbles to the surface. By providing evidence of past successes with innovative modeling, the education service provider can mitigate the sometimes-lengthy process of vetting a new model. This chat will discuss · Establishing relationships with channel partners · Culturally sensitive techniques for global customer service (i.e. Making fans who rave in other languages) · Using multidisciplinary approaches in traditional, virtual, and blended classrooms · Providing evidence and experiential knowledge to support new models · Discussion of ideas as export
Founders Hall, Rooms 122 & 127

12:00PM
10 Signs That the Shift to Digital Is Underway – and 5 Ways to Get Ahead of the Curve!
Presented by: John Watson, President of Evergreen Education Group and lead author of the annual Keeping Pace Report, and Mickey Revenaugh, co-founder of Connections Education and Board President of iNACOL
The impact of technology on every aspect of our lives has accelerated and multiplied over the past few years, changing the way we communicate with our families, buy groceries, catch a ride to the airport, and even plan for our deaths. Traditionally, K-12 education has been slow to change compared with the realm of business or consumers, but all around us is evidence that the shift to digital learning is finally happening. On this webinar, two leading digital education experts talk about the evidence they're seeing across the U.S. that technology is taking root – and pinpoint the gaps that remain. Tune in to hear observations and advice from John Watson, CEO of Evergreen Education Group and co-author of Evergreen's annual Keeping Pace Report, and Mickey Revenaugh, co-founder of Connections Education and Board President of iNACOL.
Founders Hall, Rooms 122 & 127

Friday, November 13, 2015

**Webinars TBA

Articles

(Click the images to read the articles)

Online Learning

How do you help #eLearning students who are tech-resistant? http://ow.ly/TOy1L

7 Tips For Working With Tech-Resistant Learners In eLearning - eLearning...
elearningindustry.com

Online Learning

Congress seeks to cut the prohibitive costs of university textbooks by making them avail online. http://bit.ly/1jD4qva **#oer #opentextbook**

Affordable College Textbook Act Provides Major Impact on Future of...
ischoolguide.com

More

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV 16 "Welcome" Videos Shoot Session 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM Dal 2, Rm 138	**NOV 19** DLAC—Advisory Committee Meeting 10:00 AM—12:00 PM DAL2, Rm 209/210
NOV 17 "Welcome" Videos Shoot Session 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM Dal 2, Rm 138	**NOV 19** Social Media, Accessibility and Disability Inclusion 1:00 PM—2:30 PM Dal 2, Rm 122 or virtually
NOV 18 Blackboard Open Lab 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM Dal 1, Rm 336	**DEC 01** Meetup 4 – Let's **change** something! 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM Dal 2, Rooftop

Fall 2015

And yes, DLIT won, for the second consecutive year in a row, the Departmental Fall Decorating Contest. If you didn't visit us during the last week of October or if you want to revisit (electronically) the spooky and haunted offices watch the following videos:

2015 DLIT Asylum for the Criminally Insane
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NYB7p_Ck8x0

2015 DLIT Haunted Mansion
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0DfKW9u03BI

And here are a few stills:

Click the following links to access the full photo-albums:
- The **Dungeon**
- The **Haunted Mansion**
- The **Asylum for the Criminally Insane**
- The **Cemetery**
- The **Catacombs**

Contact Us!

The **Office of Distance Learning and Instructional Technologies** invites faculty and staff to join and participate in our development programs. These events provide an opportunity to network with faculty from other departments, learn new instructional strategies and tools, and become aware of best practices in online teaching and learning. Hope to see you there, and don't forget to register for our workshops and sessions!

Please contact us with ideas and suggestions for future events:

Web: http://www.untdallas.edu/dlit
Phone: 972-338-5580
Email: UNTDDistance@unt.edu

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