The Medical Education Interest Group @UNSW

A packed newsletter this week with news and articles to interest everyone: more exciting education conferences this year; up-coming workshops; review of an issue of the "Simulation and Gaming" journal - experiential learning and how games can help students to learn; how UNSWorks will get your educational research out into the public domain; and how to download the UNSW library toolbar; and lots more. Regards, RT (Ed).

Uni News and Coming Events

- 3rd Biennial Thresholds Concepts Symposium 2010
  UNSW is hosting this with USyd (More details on page 2).
- The UNSW L&T Forum will take place on Friday Sept 11th—more details available soon but put this in your diary now!
- UniServe, ISSOTL, ASCILTE, HERDSA are holding great conferences this year – see inside Page 2 for details.

Report from the May MedEd Meeting

Starting up Learning & Teaching Research. RT hosted a discussion on this topic. This will be developed into an online resource accessible via the MedEd website. If you have any relevant contributions please send in by end of May.

The next seminar in this series is "Research in education 2 — Ethics approval and design" with Professor Heather Worth on Weds 2nd Sept in SGR 6 in Mathews basement. See http://www.gmo.unsw.edu.au/Ethics/HumanEthics/HumanEthics_index.html

Next MedEd meeting is Thurs 4th June 1130-1300 in SGR 6 UG Mathews. At 1130am our outreach librarian, Toni Gifford, will be on hand to encourage us to put our publications and conference presentations on-line with UNSWorks.

From 12-1pm we will be presenting abstracts for the upcoming ANZAME conference. See Page 3 inside for more details.

UNSW is the UNSW institutional repository which has been developed to host the research outputs of the University and make them easily discoverable.

Digital repositories aim to expand the influence and research impact of both UNSW and its academics. Conferences papers, posters and unpublished L & T resources can also be included. ARC and NHMRC also strongly recommend deposits in open access repositories to meet grant requirements. Take a look at: http://unsworks.unsw.edu.au/

Journal Reviews and Resources


This journal is over 35 years old and aims to serve as an international forum for the "exploration and development of simulation /gaming methodologies used in education, training, consultation and research". More on the journal and past issues can be found at: http://www.sagepub.com/journalsProdDesc.nav?prodId=Journal200777


Thanks to Geoff McDonnell, Research Fellow at the Centre for Health informatics, for this recommendation.

For sessional teachers (e.g. Phase 1 facilitators) & those who provide their training take a look at the UNSW Compendium of Good Practice in Learning and Teaching. Issue 4, February 2007 (Special Issue: Sessional Teaching at UNSW): http://www.ltu.unsw.edu.au/content/exchange/compendium4.cfm?ss=0

Please send in your reviews of 50—200 words on journals, books, workshops or conferences for the next MedEd newsletter issue ASAP to Rachel (rachelt@unsw.edu.au)
Threshold Concepts in Learning

UNSW in conjunction with the University of Sydney, is hosting the 3rd Biennial Threshold Symposium on 1st-2nd July, 2010. This international symposium will bring together researchers and practitioners from across the world to present, critique and discuss new research and developments in this area, and will include Erik Meyer and Ray Land who are the originators of concept.

We encourage you to consider putting forward a paper – please note this conference is not until next year so there is plenty of time to plan and research!

Also, we will be establishing a special interest group in the area of threshold concepts to bring together those at UNSW who are interested in or already exploring the area in relation to their teaching. If you are interested in joining a group please let us know by return email.

In case this area is new to you and you’d like to know more, a key paper that outlines threshold concepts can be found at:

http://www.etl.tla.ed.ac.uk/docs/ETLreport4.pdf

Jan McLean L&T@UNSW jan.mclean@unsw.edu.au

Themes of the symposium:
- Transforming knowledge and learning—thinking, learning, understanding, perceptions, frameworks (epistemological dimensions)
- Transforming world views, identities, feelings, values, perspectives (ontological dimensions)
- Transforming practice—teaching, learning, curricula, assessment

Plus most critically:
- Transforming the very notion of threshold concepts themselves—through critiquing, problematising, evaluating, creating—and moving the notion of and the research on threshold concepts forward.

(Threshold Concepts continued...)

Transforming Further details, including a call for Papers – will be publicized in June 2009. As with previous symposia, we encourage papers from all contexts, disciplines and perspectives including from staff, students, academic developers and from those in leadership positions. There will be a range of formats offered, including papers, roundtable discussions and creative spaces

FULT graduates

A coffee morning is being arranged in late June for all current FULT attendees and recent FULT graduates.

Please contact Rachel (rachelt@unsw.edu.au) if you are interested in organizing this or wish to attend.

From UNSW Library

How to download the very useful Library Toolbar — in case you missed the instalment on this last year:

- Open Firefox (This is the only installation that will work on an Apple computer). If you do not have Firefox, you need to download and install it first before you proceed. Download Firefox here:
- Visit:
- You will be presented with an installation window. Wait three seconds for the Install Now button to become available and then click on it.
- After the installation, the Add-ons screen will display. Click on Restart Firefox and wait for Firefox to restart.
- The UNSW Library Toolbar installation is now complete. Full instructions on how to use this are available at:
  http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/SOTL

The Outreach Librarian for the medical faculty is:
Toni Gifford t.gifford@unsw.edu.au Tel: 9385 8241.

More Education Conferences


This is a three day event held annually at The University of Sydney. Day 1 enables discipline groups to meet and share issues of current importance. Days 2 & 3, the Symposium, provide a platform for presenting and developing high quality research in tertiary science teaching and learning.

The 2009 theme is: “Motivating science undergraduates: Ideas and Interventions” with 2 streams:
- Research experiences in undergraduate science Stream 1
- First Year university or Year 13? Stream 2


Take a look at the abstracts as these will be accessible by end of May and the proceedings (published post conference) can be very useful. Some of the session themes: designing for work place learning in a health discipline; engaging students in the research experience; improving the 1st Yr experience; online learning environments.


ASCILITE conference 2009 is being held on 6-9th December in Auckland, NZ. The conference themes reflects on the emergence of multiple spaces in personal and learning environments. http://www.ascilite.org.au/conferences/auckland09/
UNSWorks and ANZAME conference presentations
At the next MedEd meeting we welcome Toni Gifford, our library liaison officer, to discuss UNSWorks and how it can work for us.

From 12-1pm, 2-3 presenters will be presenting their ANZAME conference presentations:
Keri Moore will present her workshop for ANZAME on “Exploring Teaching Strategies and of the Application of Client-centred Care during Undergraduate Physiotherapy Clinical Practice”
Rachel Thompson, Chris Hughes et al will discuss their PeArL for ANZAME on the Med Program wiki assignment and eMedpedia.
ALL WELCOME — FULT graduates encouraged to attend

For Your Diary — MedEd 2009 seminar programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Was held on Thursday 12th March</td>
<td>11.00 - 13.00</td>
<td>Seminar meeting with Dr Jason Frank Canadian expert on CanMEDS (clinical core competencies) <a href="http://rcsc.medical.org/canmeds/index.php">http://rcsc.medical.org/canmeds/index.php</a></td>
<td>SGR 6, Mathews UG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was held on Wednesday 8th April</td>
<td>11.30 - 13.00</td>
<td>Feedback from Summer conferences ANZAME 09 abstracts and papers</td>
<td>See page 1 for a brief summary of this meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5th May</td>
<td>08.00 - 09.30</td>
<td>Research in education 1 — Getting started</td>
<td>SGR 6, Mathews UG</td>
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**NEXT MEETING**
Thursday 4th June  **11.30 - 13.00**
UNSWorks—Toni Gifford
ANZAME presentations—Kerrie Moore, Rachel Thompson, Chris Hughes
SGR 6, Mathews UG

Mid-year Break

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4th Aug</td>
<td>08.00 - 09.30</td>
<td>Feedback from Winter conferences</td>
<td>SGR 6, Mathews UG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weds 2nd September</td>
<td>11.30 - 13.00</td>
<td>Research in education 2 — Ethics approval and design Prof Heather Worth, to be confirmed</td>
<td>SGR 6, Mathews UG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6th October</td>
<td>08.00 - 09.30</td>
<td>Research in education 3 — Writing up and getting published (to be confirmed)</td>
<td>SGR 6, Mathews UG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 5th Nov</td>
<td>11.30 - 13.00</td>
<td>MCQs in Assessment (Speaker TBA)</td>
<td>SGR 6, Mathews UG</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weds 2nd December</td>
<td>09.30 - 13.30</td>
<td>MedEd L&amp;T Forum With presentation of Faculty L&amp;T Awards and FULT graduates All welcome</td>
<td>SGR 6-9, Mathews UG</td>
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N.B. Please let Rachel know ASAP if you notice clashes with other meetings that might affect our attendance.
MedEd Contact and Newsletter editor

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Feedback requests

Please contribute—start writing those book reviews!
And if you read some interesting publications, or find new or exciting L&T or medical education websites, then please send them in. What are your best teaching tips? —send them in for “Teaching tip of the Month” (<100 words please).

What else would you like to see in the Newsletter?
Send ASAP to rachelt@unsw.edu.au

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Don’t forget the MedEd Website with info on professional development, 2009 conferences, and lots more!

Find it at: www.med.unsw.edu.au under “For Staff” /Learning and Teaching

Quote of the month:

“In all affairs it’s a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted.”
Bertrand Russell, British author, mathematician, & philosopher (1872 - 1970)

Web-link of the month:
TOMORROW'S PROFESSOR(sm) Mailing List
http://cqi.stanford.edu/~dept-ctl/cqi-bin/tomprof/postings.php

This site is a digest of interesting articles on education, academic teaching careers, research, etc
Posted and sponsored by Stanford Center for Teaching and Learning http://ctl.stanford.edu

Thanks to Chris Hughes for this recommendation

Share the good L&T websites that you come across with the MedEd Google group!

The MedEd BLOG is coming...

WATCH THIS SPACE!!!