

Digitally Ready for the Future

Sharing Good Practice

Thursday 19 July 2012

10.45	Registration and refreshments		
11.10-11.20	Living, learning and working in a digital future <i>Professor Gavin Brooks Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Teaching and Learning</i>		
11.25-11.50	Sex, lies, and videotape: Using videos to get your message across <i>Pete Castle, Communications</i>	Games, mobile phones and employability – or – the art of getting students too engaged in coursework <i>Dr Karsten Lundqvist, Systems Engineering</i>	Readymade e-portfolios for assessment, feedback or reflection <i>Guy Pursey, Centre for the Development of Teaching & Learning</i>
12.00-12.25	Activity-led learning to reinforce subject knowledge, encourage creativity and enhance soft skills <i>Professor Rachel McCrindle, Systems Engineering</i>	Using blended learning to develop future leaders for the food industry <i>Dr Richard Frazier, Food and Nutritional Sciences</i>	The online museum <i>Rebecca Reynolds, Museum of English Rural Life</i>
12.25-12.50	The student and the social web: a journey <i>Chris Alexander, Graduate in Systems Engineering</i>	Grasping the nettle: enhancing our digital reach through social media <i>Dr Sally Lloyd-Evans/Michelle Brooks, Geography & Environmental Science</i>	Audience response systems in teaching & learning: Poll Everywhere <i>Dr Andi Nygaard, Economics</i>
13.00-13.50	Lunch		
14.00- 14.10	Proud to be part of Digitally Ready <i>Sir David Bell KCB, Vice-Chancellor</i>		
14.10-14.20	The JISC Digital Literacies project: what's in it for me? <i>Paul Bailey, JISC Programme Manager, Developing Digital Literacies</i>		
14.20-14.30	Web 2.0 teaching and learning tools: for life, not just for term time <i>Dr Alastair Culham, Biological Sciences</i>		
14.30-14.40	Growing a niche domain to success on an international scale <i>Gerry Leonidas, Typography & Graphic Communication</i>		
14.40-14.50	Virtual Rome <i>Dr Matthew Nicholls, Classics</i>		
15.00- 15.30	Cake, tea & coffee		

Pete Castle, Communications

Sex, lies, and videotape: Using videos to get your message across

Presentation and discussion

Mobile video and YouTube are increasingly part of our day-to-day lives, and open up new ways of getting your message across. But before you start shooting footage, it pays to ask yourself some key questions. Pete Castle, a former journalist and University press officer who produces video content, will explore the how and why of video and provide some examples of what works.

Dr Karsten Lundqvist, Systems Engineering

Games, mobile phones and employability – or – the art of getting students too engaged in coursework

Presentation and facilitated discussion

Karsten Lundqvist, Teaching Fellow in the School of Systems Engineering, shares his experience of engaging students and enhancing employability through hand- on mobile app development using e-Learning tutorials.

Guy Pursey, Centre for the Development of Teaching & Learning

Readymade e-portfolios for assessment, feedback or reflection

Presentation, demo and facilitated discussion

Students reading Law at the University of Reading take a compulsory module Legal Skills module which requires them to complete two e-portfolios. Find out how the e-portfolios in Legal Skills are set up for the students so that they can concentrate on the important parts of the module and how the same method could help you.

Professor Rachel McCrindle, Systems Engineering

Activity-led learning to reinforce subject knowledge, encourage creativity and enhance soft skills

Presentation and discussion

Rachel McCrindle, Professor of Computer and Human Interaction, showcases some of the work produced by students working on a group assignment to design and develop a game that will teach novices software engineering, and discusses how this helps them develop subject knowledge, digital creativity and soft skills key to their studies and employability.

Dr Richard Frazier, Food and Nutritional Sciences

Using blended learning to develop future leaders for the food industry

Presentation and facilitated discussion

The Food Advanced Training Partnership (Food ATP) is a BBSRC funded initiative to deliver postgraduate level skills training for the food industry. It is our vision to use a blended learning approach of distance e-learning coupled with intensive study weeks to deliver high level training for food industry professionals. This approach is to allow training to be accessed in a flexible way alongside workplace commitments.

Rebecca Reynolds, Museum of English Rural Life

The online museum

Presentation and facilitated discussion

Museum ethics, display design and object-based research are some of the areas for which online resources are being developed at the Museum of English Rural Life in a JISC- funded project between the University of Reading and University College London. Rebecca Reynolds, visiting lecturer in Museum Studies, demonstrates some of these resources and summarises research findings from the project about students' preferences for online content. Delegates will discuss the possible uses of online content for object-based research.

Chris Alexander , Graduate in Systems Engineering

The student and the social web: a journey

Presentation

Chris Alexander offers perspectives from a recent graduate in Applied Robotics who has neither a Facebook account nor a CV.

Dr Sally Lloyd-Evans/Michelle Brooks, Geography & Environmental Science

Grasping the nettle: enhancing our digital reach through social media

Presentation and facilitated discussion

By focusing on social media and blogging as drivers for informal learning, activism and research, our presentation explores how students can enhance their university experience and employability by establishing a digital social presence in different media. Drawing on Michelle's experience of activist research, we unpack the opportunities and threats that blogging presents for the University before concluding with ideas for embedding digital literacies in everyday practice.

Dr Andi Nygaard, Economics

Audience response systems in teaching & learning: Poll Everywhere

Presentation, demo and facilitated discussion

Andi Nygaard, Lecturer in Economics, shares his experience of using the audience response system PollEverywhere during a live debate hosted by his School where students were able to text in questions and comments which were then displayed on a screen behind the speakers. The tool was also used to poll the students for their support of the motion both before and after the debate. Delegates will have the opportunity to try the system for themselves while discussing the need for a student code of conduct.

Dr Alastair Culham, Biological Sciences

Web 2.0 teaching and learning tools: for life, not just for term time

Show & Tell plenary session

For the past three years the Plant Diversity group has been experimenting with web 2.0 tools to improve communication at five levels: engaging with prospective new students, keeping information flowing in the student/staff community, delivery of novel t&l tools, to encourage students to raise their e-presence to improve their employability, and to keep in touch with our alumni. What does this mean? It means we are using Facebook and blogging in both public and closed communities. The technology is not novel but the ways of deploying it can be.

Gerry Leonidas, Typography & Graphic Communication

Growing a niche domain to success on an international scale

Show & Tell plenary session

In the small, but growing, world of typeface design, 'Reading' is synonymous with research of the highest calibre, and practice at the centre of the industry. In this session, Gerry Leonidas, Senior Lecturer and Programme Director of the MA in Typeface Design at the University of Reading, explains his use of online tools to achieve this.

Dr Matthew Nicholls, Classics

Virtual Rome

Show & Tell plenary session

Matthew has been combining ancient evidence with 21st-century techniques to create a huge, detailed reconstruction of the city of Rome as it appeared around AD 315. Covering thousands of buildings from the Colosseum and imperial palaces to humble dwellings and warehouses, the model is already finding use as a teaching and research tool, and attracting interest from journalists and broadcasters. Matthew has also been keen to involve students in the creation of digital content, working with departments including Typography and Systems Engineering on possible smartphone and publication applications, and setting up a new undergraduate module to create a digital reconstruction of the local Roman town of Silchester.