Festival of Learning 2018

Vancouver, BC

[#fol18](#)

Prepared for Washington State Library

Festival Theme

Higher Education: Handle with Care

How does care manifest or fail to manifest in our practices, policies, structures, spaces, technologies and pedagogies? How could we be better caretakers and caregivers in the context of post-secondary education and in service of student learning?

![boat gas house]

A three day conference in beautiful Vancouver, BC.

Keynote

Jesse Strommel, Executive Director UMW Division of Teaching & Learning Technologies and founder of @HybridPed.

An open-access journal of learning, teaching, and technology.

He spoke on the topic of compassion & respect.

His speech touched my heart.

Concept: Scaffolding

♥ A structure around the outside of a building. Start anywhere and end anywhere. Infinite points of entry. ♥

- Not a series of discrete steps that assumes everyone starts and ends up at the same place.
- Inspired by freire and his use of long strings of clauses.

Any discussion of pedagogy needs to include a critical examination of our tools, what they afford, who they exclude...

Most higher ed teaching practices are unexamined, because teachers are rarely given space to think...

1. Start by trusting students
2. Realize fairness is not an excuse for lack of empathy.

The Sessions

Diversity, Adversity, Perversity and the University: Opportunities for Embedding & Celebratin Diversity in Class Maters
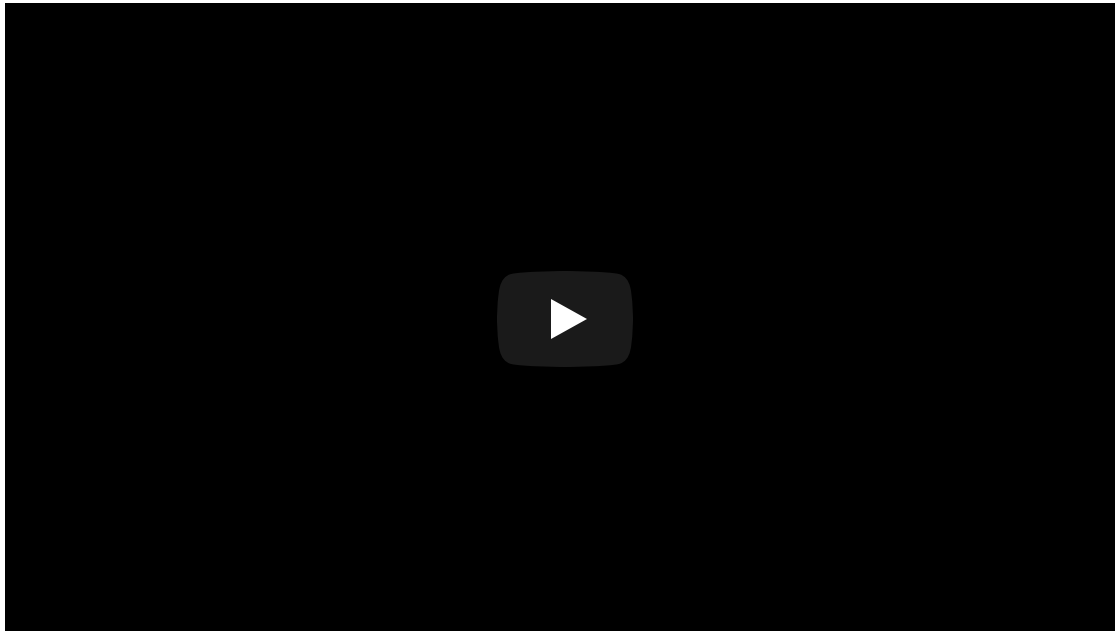
Presenters: David Geary & Ki Wight

Key Takeaway: Do a diversity audit on images, videos and other class materials that you use your day-to-day in classroom. Images and videos used in classroom presentations can promote diversity (racial, sexual, gender, ability) without necessarily being the subject of the course.

Recommended Reading Audrey Watters Ed-Tech's Inequalities

Universal Design for Learning

Presenters: Dr. Gloria Ramirez & Dr. Nan Stevens

Key Takeaway: Shelley Moore: Transforming Inclusive Education

Key Resource: Universal Design for Learning Guidelines

My AHA Moment

Session: Delivering a Better Experience by Using the Open, Collaborative and Flexible Grav CMS - Inside or Outside of your LMS

Presenter: Paul Hibbitts

Grav leverages forward-looking standards such as Markdown for platform-independent content and enables Git-based collaborative workflows, both which naturally also supports the 5 Rs of Open Educational Resources.

![GRAV logo]

My first forey into Open was through open source projects such as WordPress. Grav is a headless CMS that can be incorporated into your institutional CMS as well. Never be trapped into a proprietary ecosystem if you are capable. Grav gives you the capabilities to achieve this.

What is Grav?

- Modern flat file CMS
    - Files based also supports version control.
    - Good for smaller sites, simplicity, portability.
- Modular & Git Based Workflow

Conclusion Grav is all the things!

Session: Making Pressbooks Better

Presenter: Zoe Wake Hyde

Disclaimer - Whatcom Community Colleges uses Pressbooks to deliver our Open Textbooks to our students. This was a roadmap update.

♥ Open source to the rescue again ♥

When applying for the professional development grant I chose these priorities. Yes all of these. I couldn't decide.

1. Expand services for learning and access to information:

2. Develop library services that provide all users:

3. Enhance electronic and other linkages:

4. Target library services to diverse communities:

5. Target library and information services to the underserved

How did my participation in the 2018 Festival of Learning address the LSTA priorities I chose?

First Example

Open Source Technologies

Our library continues to develop our skills in using platform neutral technologies that exemplify out committments to accessibility and diversity of learners. Using open source technologies in combination with open licensing standards demonstrates that we:

1. Have the technical capabilities to expand services for learning and access to information
2. Be able to target services to diverse communities including those with low-bandwidth

WordPress CMS | Pressbooks | Grav CMS | Markdown | Git
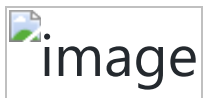
Second Example

Universal Design for Learning

Third Example

Empathy and compassion should be infused into our teaching methods regardless of the technology or materials.

"the outcomes"

How will this directly impact my end users.

Explain the outcomes and their potential impact on service for my customers.

image

Briefly describe the importance of these outcomes.

These outcomes are important because without compassion, without equity without loving human kindness we cannot learn.