Educational Developers’ Caucus 2018 Conference: Educational Developers Gaining an Edge (EDGE)

Educational developers often work on the edge, which is sometimes advantageous and other times challenging. Working on the edge can provide opportunities to be creative and initiate innovative bold practices but it can also be a place that is uncomfortable and facilitates failure.

For this year’s Educational Developers’ Caucus (EDC) annual conference, we invite educational developers to position themselves on the edge of their work to investigate and share their stories of success and failure. Positioning ourselves on the edge of our work provokes us to think about the following:

- which vistas currently give educational development an advantage;
- what waves of change are impacting our work;
- which topics are prickly and perplexing; and
- when, why, and how have you teetered on the edge?

To help you think from the edge for the pre-conference and conference program, we provide the following questions within thematic categories that exemplify the EDC Living Plan:

**Visionary prospects (the vistas)**
Educational developers’ informed perspectives guide student learning and instructors’ professional development.

What vital impact are you having at your institution?
How and where can you anticipate gaining more impact? What is on the horizon?
How are you creating extraordinary academic environments related to experiential learning (including community engagement), decolonization, and internationalization?

**Transformational (the waves of change)**
Transformative learning requires a significant shift in perspective related to a certain topic.
What unexpected, creative, and bold practices are emerging at your institution and in your work that may not be a tsunami but are definitely causing some tumbling and turning over of previously held beliefs and values?
What transformations and innovations are taking place related to educational technology, open textbooks, learning spaces, neuro-diversity, or other topics?

**Thought-provoking (the prickly and perplexing)**
Educational developers are often faced with ideas or situations that require careful consideration and help from others.
What ideas or topics have recently required your deep attention?
What questions do you have for others? What can’t you figure out?
What provocative conversations have you been involved in or want to initiate and explore at this conference?

**Spectacular failures (the teetering on the edge)**
We have all experienced failure, but of more interest is when we have spectacular failures that are awe-inspiring.
What spectacular failures or near failures have you encountered in your work?
Through analysis of what went wrong, what lessons were learned? How was the failure inspiring?
Spectacular connotes being impressive and dramatic. How was the failure impressive?
How did you rebound?

**Submission Requirements**
To ensure a broad slate of session offerings from different individuals and institutions, we ask that participants submit no more than three session proposals as lead and as co-presenter(s). We particularly encourage joint applications from individuals at different institutions.

Proposals must be submitted using our online submission system accessible through our conference website. Proposals should include:

Authors:
- Names, positions, institutional affiliations, a 50-75 word biography, and contact information for presenter(s). Indicate whether each presenter is attending the conference. Please note that each individual may be involved with a maximum of three submissions for this conference (see above). On the submission form, it is possible to add several authors. Just click, “Click here to add more authors."

Title and Abstract:
- Title. Please be succinct. It is not expected that you include the conference theme in your title. Your session should make the link appropriately and explicitly.

- Abstract (not to exceed 250 words) outlining the objectives, content, and format for the session. Word your abstract with the needs of the participants in mind. This abstract will appear in the conference program. Proposals should use the APA citation style.

Keywords:
- Provide keywords that will help conference organizers and attendees with the main audience and concepts related to your session proposal.
Topics:
- Check which topic theme your session proposal most closely relates.

Uploads, ensure your session proposal includes the following:
- Preferred session format (see below for options). Please indicate whether you would be willing to consider another session format if your session is not accepted as it is proposed.
- A descriptive outline – seen only by reviewers – of what you will cover in your session including:
  - two to four learning outcomes that your session will accomplish;
  - how your session will encourage participant engagement and interaction (discussion, video, group activities, etc.);
  - relevant research and scholarship that you will draw upon in your session;
  - insights about leading change in teaching and learning; and
  - how your session relates to the conference theme.
- Audiovisual requirements.

Submission deadline: October 30, 2017

If you have any questions about the conference, please contact the Conference Planning Committee at edc2018@uvic.ca

Proposals are invited in the following formats:

**Half- and full-day pre-conference** (3 hours to 6 hours): Do you have a topic that requires in-depth development, applied practice, and/or extended discussion? Pre-conference workshops should involve a blend of engaging approaches to facilitate the integration of theory, reflection, and research-based evidence.

**Poster presentations** (45 minutes): Poster presentations typically showcase research findings, innovative practices and programs, using graphics and concise text. The Poster session will take place immediately after the opening plenary to maximize exposure and discussion. You, as the poster presenter, are encouraged to engage participants in informal discussions and provide hand-outs summarizing your poster.

**Roundtable discussions** (20 minutes): If you have a topic or project that can be facilitated through a short discussion, then consider proposing a roundtable discussion. As the facilitator, you will set the context and provide ideas and information to shape and enrich the dialogue. You will offer the same roundtable discussion to up to ten people three times during the one-hour event. Audio-visual equipment will not be required.

**Research presentations** (30 minutes): Do you have research findings, an initiative, or partnership program that you would like to share? What transformational innovations would you like to share with colleagues? Research presentations focus on structured dissemination rather than on dialogue and exchange, but as the presenter, please allow time for audience questions.

**Interactive workshops** (60-75 minutes): If you have a topic that would benefit from active participation from participants, then propose an interactive workshop. These workshops are often based on systematically documented or researched practical experiences, but can also explore theoretical issues. They offer an opportunity for more in-depth examinations of challenging issues in the practice and theory of educational development.
Debates (60 minutes): Are there long-held practices that need to be challenged? Or ideas on the edge that need to be discussed? By proposing a debate, two presenters and a moderator will have the opportunity to explore opposing views on a topic. The moderator will begin by stating the proposition, with one presenter taking an affirmative and the other a dissenting view of the topic. This engaging format will include time for audience questions and contributions. When submitting a debate proposal, describe the topic to be debated, including the major points likely to be argued by each side, and the presenters’ and moderator’s expertise related to the topic.

Symposium sessions (75 minutes): Some topics require longer engagement. Maybe you share a visionary idea with others that you all want to explore. In the symposium format, three 20-minute sessions about related topics will be combined with a moderator/discussant to contribute his or her comments and facilitate discussion at the end. Submissions must include the three presenters and moderator/discussant, session descriptions, and moderator comments/questions.

Scholarship of Educational Development (SoED) Workshop (60 minutes): Do you have a research idea that would benefit from colleagues’ input? Maybe your research idea addresses the theme of thought-provoking; something that is prickly and perplexing that needs others’ perspectives. The SoED workshop will have participants bring research ideas they are interested in implementing to share with others or potentially find colleagues who want to collaborate. Each participant in the SoED workshop will have 5 minutes to explain their idea for proposed research followed by 10 minutes for questions and suggestions from the audience. The SoED workshop will be an excellent arena to receive ideas about methodology and to refine your research question.

Book Club (30 minutes): Have you recently read a book or article or have one in mind that you want to engage in deep conversation about? Invite conference attendees to read a book or article before the conference then convene the book club at the conference to discuss the selected reading(s).

5-minute Exposé (30 minutes): Do you have an idea, theory, or innovation that you can clearly and succinctly share in just five minutes (space will be limited to six presenters)? 5-minute exposés will be scheduled to take place at the closing plenary, so feel free to suggest that your exposé will be about what you learned at EDC2018! 5-minute exposé presenters will have access to a microphone only; no other technologies allowed, but creative ways to deliver your 5-minute exposé are encouraged (maybe a song or dance?).

Storytelling (30 minutes): Do you have an authentic story (maybe a spectacular failure) related to educational development that will inspire and engage others? This session will offer a laid-back opportunity to make new connections and share experiences.

Human Library (30 minutes): Do you know an Educational Developer Caucus member or University of Victoria community member with a unique role, identity, or experience? These members will become “books” that session attendees can “check out” for 20 minutes. Once checked out, the attendee can engage in dialogue or simply ask the book questions. The facilitator of this session should select human books, develop and share guidelines for questioning, and facilitate the check-out and check-in process.

Critical Café (30 minutes): What are some of the challenges faced by educational developers and are endemic to the educational developer role? What are the difficult issues and power relations inherent in our profession and in higher education? What are the critical questions we must ask ourselves to
challenge the status quo? As the facilitator of this session, you would allow a space for critical discourse about the topic you propose.

*Name Your Own Conference Format* (30 minutes): Tell us in your proposal the format and time frame that you envision as best suiting your topic and audience. We are happy to include film, poetry, art work, photo-voice, video, and other expressive forms in the program. All conference sessions will take place inside the conference venue; however, if you are interested in hosting your session in an alternate location, please contact the conference organizers.

In keeping with the EDC Bylaw Aims (3.2), the EDC 2018 Conference aims to:
- facilitate networking and communication between future, new and seasoned educational developers;
- profile developments (scholarly and otherwise) in the field;
- afford professional development opportunities to experienced, new and potential educational developers; and
- provide a forum to exchange ideas, issues and concerns emerging in the field. 
[https://www.stlhe.ca/affiliated-groups/educational-developers-caucus/](https://www.stlhe.ca/affiliated-groups/educational-developers-caucus/)

**Submission information**

Conference submissions will be handled through Easy Chair. Please go to this [website](https://www.stlhe.ca/affiliated-groups/educational-developers-caucus/) to create an account and submit your proposal.

Once you create an account, you will go to the New Submission tab at the top; below is an image of what to expect.
Submit your session proposal that includes your preferred session format, descriptive outline, and audiovisual requirements. See the Call for Proposals for the options available. The proposal must be in PDF format (file extension: .pdf).

Keywords
Type a list of keywords (also known as key phrases or key terms), one per line to characterize your submission. You should specify at least three keywords.

Keywords (*):

Topics
Please select topics relevant to your submission from the following list:

- Visionary prospects (the visible)
- Transformational (the waves of change)
- Thought-provoking (the prickly and perplexing)
- Spectacular failures (the terrifying on the edge)

Uploads
The following part of the submission form was added by EDC2018. It has neither been checked nor endorsed by EasyChair.

Ready?
If you filled out the form, press the 'submit' button below. Do not press the button twice; uploading may take time!

Submit