THE MORNING *LaTTe*

The Learning and Teaching Technologies Advisory Group (LaTTe) provides recommendations to guide the strategic directions and use of learning technologies. Join us as we look at our activities for 2022, and if you'd like to know more, or get involved, contact your LaTTe representative.

Creating Engaging Video Content

A recent look at the University's Panopto analytics data revealed that for the vast majority of videos uploaded, the average minutes watched was much lower than the total duration, indicating that most videos are unable to capture and retain student interest.

A deeper probe into the content revealed a wide range of contributing factors, from poor recording quality to sections of long silence and even upside-down recordings. To help address these issues and improve student engagement with online resources, Learning Futures is developing a Video Production Fundamentals short course for all staff and students.

The course is built on a foundation of professional video production and encourages participants to apply principles and best practices to their own content with the recording devices they have. Beyond contributing to the production of more professional, polished videos, many of the principles in the course are also grounded in current pedagogical literature with the aim of improving learning outcomes. The course covers topics such as selecting a shooting location, lighting a scene and recording clear audio, alongside educational considerations around improving student recall, comprehension and transfer of knowledge.

The video component of the course will be housed in bite-sized topics on Panopto, parallel with the text component on the OpenLearning platform. While they represent two very different delivery formats, the video and text will coexist and support one another, allowing learners to choose their format according to preference and available time.

The Video Production Fundamentals short course is currently scheduled for a late-July launch, and may entail a limited pilot program. If you or your school are interested in participating, please get in touch with Lynnae Venaruzzo.

Digital Learning Experience

We are excited to be launching a program of work within the new Digital Acceleration transformation initiative which will run over three years. Digital Acceleration includes several streams covering a range of digital activities. **Digital Learning Experience** is the stream directly involving LaTTE members and is aimed at uplifting the digital skills and experience of Western's students and academic staff. A draft plan of work was presented to LaTTe for discussion and includes:

► Developing a skills uplift framework

► Addressing our digital foundation gaps or issues impacting the digital learning experience of students and staff

► Supporting users to uplift their digital capability through continuous improvement

► Enhancing our digital tools and technologies to create more authentic experiences, more engaging content, and for data insights to support actions

► Enhancing our ways of working with collaboration tools and designing for digital first

Next steps... An invitation to offer your thoughts on the digital pain points we can fast track for improvement. Feedback and questions about this digital acceleration stream is welcome via LaTTe or please contact the team directly on DX@westernsydney.edu.au. More information about Western's transformation program is available at our website.
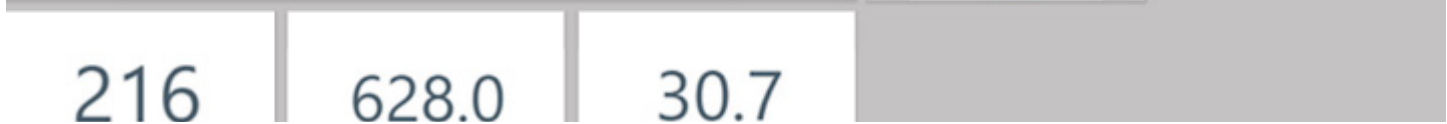
The Drawing Board

LaTTe is continuing to oversee **The Drawing Board** application. Initially conceived as an update to the SUNSET model, The Drawing Board is being designed as a lesson planning tool that will allow users to quickly construct learning sequences of various size and share their work with colleagues.

The most recent update has been shaped by feedback received from previous rounds of user testing. We have received a suggestion to include objectives as part of The Drawing Board process to help guide the activity selection process. These can be formal - such as Subject Learning Outcomes, or practical – such as setting an objective to get more students involved in class discussions. The user will then be able to apply the objectives they create to each group of activities. While this is an optional step in the process, it is also an important step that was missing in previous versions.

Visual updates have also been made. The new design will help to support larger scale projects and has a clean look and feel to it.

To take a look at these changes, you can visit the update prototype for The Drawing Board on The Hub, and for more information, please contact Ben Wong.
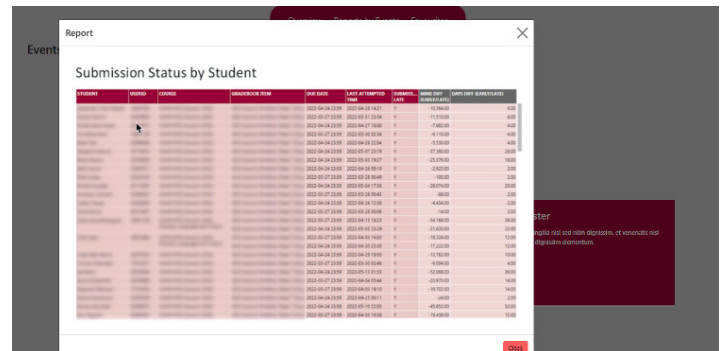
Integrated Learning Analytics

LaTTe are overseeing a new integration of learning analytics into vUWS. The integration will allow academics to access a suite of new learning analytics reports through the Subject Tools within the Subject Management area of a vUWS site. The reports will provide contextualised data for the vUWS site that the reports are being accessed from.
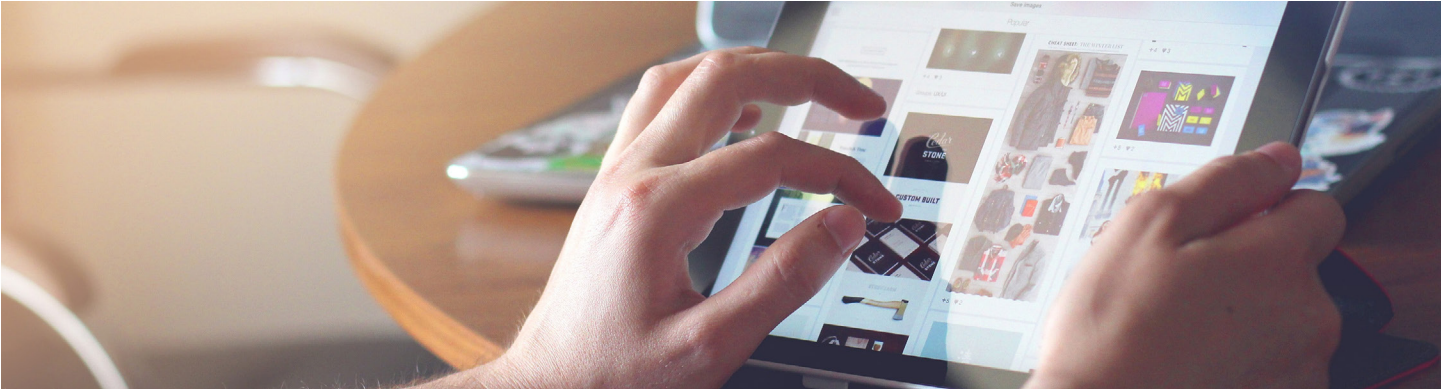
On entry, the Integrated Learning Analytics tool will provide academics with a customisable dashboard, allowing academics to choose learning analytics widgets from a larger pool and arrange the widgets on their dashboard as they please.

Reports will be accessed through a traditional menu-based navigation and through a visual, semester-event-based timeline. The timeline provides contextualisation of the reports and a logical categorisation by key semester events. Attached to each semester event, the academic will be able to click on the report title, which will then load the report in a popup overlay.

The Integrated Learning Analytics tool is currently a prototype, and LaTTe is currently gathering feedback on the concept and gathering insights into learning analytics data that academics would be interested in making available.

If you would like to contribute, by making some suggestions for the learning analytics data that you would like access to or particular teaching challenges that could be supported by learning analytics data, please send your ideas to Daniel Purdy.
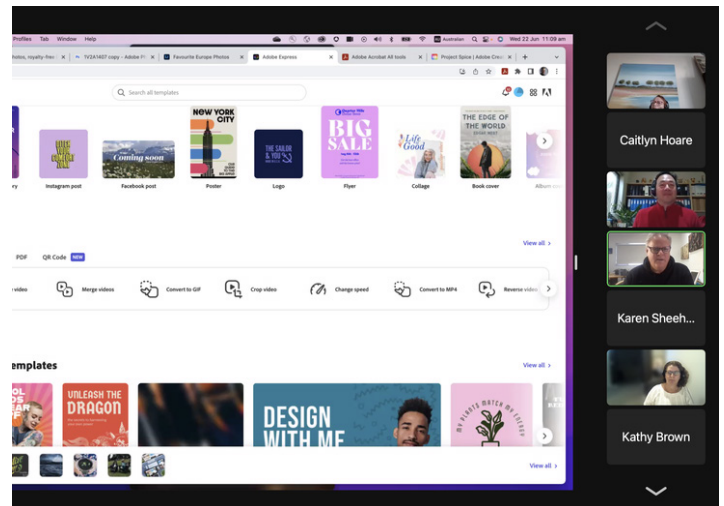
What's coming up next for Digital U?

The **Digital U** team were visited by the Adobe crew in June! We had a deep-dive into some of their video creation tools, such as Adobe Express, Premiere Pro and Premiere Rush!

Videos are a great way to create engaging eLearning content, if you missed the session you can re-watch it here.

Keep an eye out for more Digital U events, we'll have the team from Cloudseeder bring us a very Christmassy event shortly.

Keen to know more?

Contact your **LaTTe representative** or
visit LaTTe's webpage.

Have a great day! From your colleagues on LaTTe.

LATTE