

THE MORNING *LaTTe*

LaTTe's NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2024

The Learning and Teaching Technologies Advisory Group (LaTTe) provides connectivity between Senate Education Committee, ITDS, schools and academic units to identify and promote technologies that facilitate learning and teaching at Western.

Welcome to our monthly newsletter, and if you would like to know more or get involved, contact your [LaTTe representative](#).



LaTTe Workplan

Looking at the year ahead, the group discussed which initiatives and actions LaTTe should be involved in.

Items that were previously raised around equitable student outcomes, pedagogical drivers, encouraging the use of learning analytics and supporting flipped and online delivery modes were considered.

Educational disadvantage and digital poverty was brought up along with the needs of international and neuro-diverse students.

Regarding analytics, the question about how academics interpret data that can now be provided via the analytics dashboard and how is that data being collected, used and interpreted? Concerns were expressed around the idea of 'weaponising

data' and whether a Code of Conduct for data collection should be considered.

After the discussions, the group defined the following areas:

- ▶ Data and privacy - how is it all collected and stored at Western?
- ▶ How do we support neuro-diverse and international students?
- ▶ How do we educate and/or build capacity in staff to use better interpret analytics for teaching?
- ▶ How do we address digital poverty, i.e., equity and accessibility regarding access to devices?

For more information about the LaTTe Workplan for 2024, please contact [Leanne Yard](#).



Western's Learning Ecosystem

Andrew Wagstaffe from TEL presented a follow up to his group session in the December 2023 meeting, summarising the major points covered and building further by identifying Wicked problems, ones that are difficult or impossible to solve, that are facing us and the evolving Learning Ecosystem at Western.

In groups, some of the Wicked problems raised included:

- ▶ How does the University meet everyone's expectations? i.e., Student readiness and staff experience with the LMS.
- ▶ What is the LMS' role when technology moves quickly, but updates slowly?
- ▶ Analytics are great, but how do we make them meaningful?

Discussions then looked at ideas on how we might tackle these problems:

- ▶ Seamless, automated integration from Allocate+ into the LMS. One-stop grade transfer that avoids having to access EDMM.

- ▶ A dynamic landing page for students which directs them to their most recent modules and content.
- ▶ Diverse student/staff interactivity including embedded chatbots, help articles, just-in-time support, subject-based virtual study spaces and AI tools for personalised communication.
- ▶ Predictive analytics for student progress including prompts for both staff and students about student engagement and progress.
- ▶ Tool/s that can convert content quickly into different formats.
- ▶ Online AI personas/buddies to guide student journeys through content.
- ▶ A hub that showcases what tools are being used by academics in other schools.

The exercise brought out some great ideas for further consideration. LaTTe's discussions will help inform the University as it prepares for how the future Learning Ecosystem will cater to the needs of Western students and staff.

Keen to know more?

Contact your **LaTTe representative** or visit

[LaTTe's webpage.](#)

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