



LSAC

LEARNING SPECIALISTS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

2018 LSAC Eastern Regional Conference



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2018

New Pathways to Supporting Students:
Transforming Academic Learning Support for
Changing Times

HUMBER COLLEGE RESIDENCE, NORTH CAMPUS T132

CONFERENCE THEME

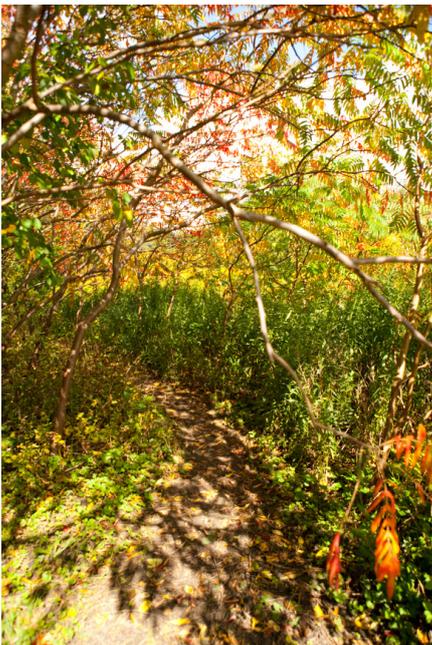
“New Pathways to Supporting Students: Transforming Academic Learning Support for Changing Times”

This theme asks us to consider how new approaches within academic learning support can remain ahead of changing contexts. What are institutions doing, and what methods are being used in academic learning support in relation to: Accessibility, Peer Mentorship, reducing barriers, and promoting inclusion and equitable education.



This conference will highlight innovative approaches to supporting learning and academic success for future generations of students and educators.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Humber College is located in Adoobiigok, known as "Place of the Black Alders" in Anishinaabemowin, the Ojibwe language. It is uniquely situated along GabeKanang Ziibi, the Humber River providing an integral connection for Indigenous peoples between the northern shore of Lake Ontario and the Lake Simcoe Georgian Bay region. In honouring the land, we are walking in the moccasin tracks of our ancestors and leaving our footprints for the future generations to come.

WIFI AT HUMBER

Connect to the network: "**Welcome to Humber**"

Click "Guest Wireless Access" button

Accept the terms of use and click "Log in"

Wait for Humber's homepage to display



JOIN THE CONVERSATION! Take photos, share what you learned, ask questions, take-aways, and get engaged!



Conference social media handle [#humberLSAC2018](#)

Each tweet will be entered in for a prize draw
The more you tweet the more chances to win!

CONFERENCE PLANNING TEAM



A big thank you to the Peer Assisted Learning Support team for organizing this conference:

Nafeeza Kadir, Victoria Chen, Stephen Aboagye, Nakita Sunar, Laura Josephs, Ramona Seecharan, Christine Bartley, & Melanie Chai

A special thank you to Mona Frial-Brown & the LSAC Board of Directors

many thanks

And to all the presenters and attendees who made this conference a huge success!

DINING ON CAMPUS

Registration fee includes breakfast, lunch, and coffee breaks!

Res Dining Hall (Coffee, snacks)

Food service in Humber College buildings:

Tim Hortons, Starbucks, Java Jazz, Smoke's Poutinerie,

Subway, Pizza Pizza, Teriyaki Experience, Ackee Tree, & many more!



DINING OFF CAMPUS

Nori Sushi (1530 Albion Rd, next to the Beer Store)

Spotlight Caribbean Kitchen (130 Queens Plate Drive)

Bourbon St. Grill (500 Rexdale Boulevard)

City South Pizza (106 Humber College Blvd #11)

Chop Steakhouse & Bar (801 Dixon Road)

Moxie's Grill & Bar (55 Reading Ct)

Also check out SkiptheDishes (\$5 off coupon: FIRSTOFMANY) and UberEats!



NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

Woodbine Centre (shopping and Imagine Cinemas)

Woodbine Racetrack

Albion Centre

Sherway Gardens Mall

Vaughan Mills

Black Creek Pioneer Village

Toronto Eaton Centre

Toronto Christmas Market in Distillery Historic District

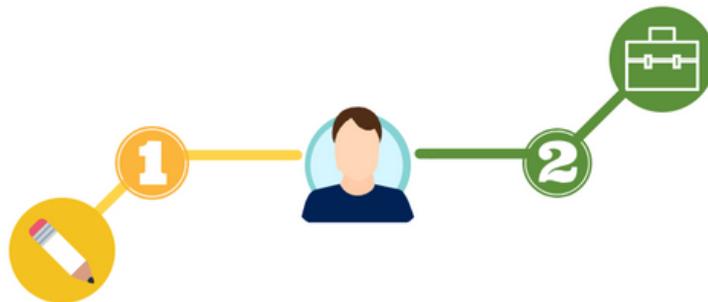


CONFERENCE KEYNOTE

Giving Back and Inspiring Forward

Dr. Victoria Chen & Nafeeza Kadir

As we reflected on this year's theme, we asked ourselves how were we creating new pathways for our students? Where have we been, and where are we going? In order to answer these questions we conducted a research study examining our own students who were once participants in our programs (peer tutoring, learning skills workshops, Peer Assisted Study Sessions or PASS) and are now leaders in the programs. We looked at what aspects of our programs motivated them to become leaders, and how in many cases influence their future career direction, with some wanting to teach and even interest in our learning support roles.



The findings and implications from this study will be shared in this keynote setting the stage for a full day of presentations from outstanding learning specialists and experts from across Canada sharing their knowledge, tools, and experience with us. Join us in reflecting on where have we walked and what new pathways we are creating.

The day will wrap up with a unique **round table discussion** facilitated by our peer program coordinators and student leaders. Participants will have the opportunity to ask about our programs, talk about success and challenges, share their experiences with programs at their institutions, and collectively gain a greater understanding of the landscape in our respective areas. **Bring flyers, promo material, business cards, etc from YOUR institutions to share at the round table! Make new connections and strengthen old ones. Use this opportunity to reflect on what you have learned throughout the day and how you can apply your take-aways to your practice.**

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

- 8:15- 9:15 ● Registration and Breakfast
- 9:15-10:15 ● Welcome and Keynote
- 10:15-10:30 ● Coffee Break
- 10:30-11:15 ● Session A
- 11:15-11:30 ● Coffee Break
- 11:30-12:15 ● **Choice of:** Session B1 or Session B2
- 12:15-1:00 ● Lunch
- 1:00-1:50 ● **Choice of:** Session C1 (One 10 min and one 25 min sessions)/ Session C2 (Three 10 min. sessions)
- 1:50-2:00 ● Coffee Break
- 2:00-2:50 ● Round Table (Peer tutoring/ Learning Skills Workshops/ PASS program/ Note taking)
- 2:50-3:05 ● Closing Remarks and Raffle Draws

CONFERENCE FULL AGENDA

8:15– 9:15 Registration and Breakfast

9:15–10:15 Welcome and Keynote

10:15–10:30 Coffee Break

SESSION A

10:30–11:15

Using Trait Emotional Intelligence to Develop Meaningful Activities for Students in Preparatory Programs. Sean Hughes (Pathways Coordinator and Department of Chemistry), and Catherine Humes (Research Methods Coordinator and Department of History) *John Abbott College*

Using a framework based on answers to TEIQue-ASF surveys, we generated 'just-in-time' classroom activities aimed at supporting elements of Emotional Intelligence deemed 'weak' in various at-promise student groups. Following a presentation of our methodology, as well as some preliminary results, participants are invited to explore these activities and to discuss the feasibility of using our framework for selecting timely and meaningful workshops for their students in either learning strategy classes or during one-on-one consults.

11:15–11:30 Coffee Break

SESSION B1*45 min workshop**11:30-12:15***Utilizing Universal Design for Learning in a University Learner Support Service.**Krista Elliott (Manager, Student Learning Centre) *UOIT*

In this workshop, the Student Learning Centre at UOIT will share how they utilize a UDL framework in a learner support service to meet the needs of learner variability and to optimize engagement. Through different modalities of service, academic specialists and student staff employ strategies to provide multiple means of engagement, representation and action whether they are working with one student or a group. Understanding the SLC's approach to UDL will help demonstrate how other student support services might examine their own approach and adapt new ways to meet the needs of diverse students in their institution.

SESSION B2*45 min workshop**11:30-12:15***Exploring the Peer Educator-Supervisor Dynamic.** Joannah O'Hatnick (Learning Specialist) *University of Guelph*

In the learning support profession, peer educators, who provide direct academic support services to other students, play an essential role. However, there is little published research that explores the relationship between peer educators and their supervisors and the impact of peer educators on our profession. To address this gap, the presenter and colleagues surveyed peer educator supervisors in Canada and the U.S. The presenter will share preliminary survey data and, with workshop participants, explore the survey results' implications.

12:15–1:00

Lunch Break

SESSION C1

One 10 min & one 25 min. session

1:00–1:50

Focus Coaching: Best Practices and Sample Tools. Sarah Patterson
(Learning Specialist) Ottawa University

Focus is an essential skill; yet how do we improve this life skill? Many students have limited attentional capacity for reasons such as pain management, ADHD/ADD, etc. This session will guide you through 1) Preparation (such as goal setting), 2) Actions (such as use of cue words), 3) Reflection and 4) Lessons learned to improve focus. You will leave with handouts from ten+ years of applied practice as a Learning Specialist.

Innovating the Learning Strategy Role: Supporting Learning Agility through Integration of Corporate Learning and Development, Relational Somatic Psychology, and Applied Neuroscience. Ellyn Kerr (Learning Strategist)
University of Toronto

To succeed in current times, academically and professionally, requires learning agility: the capacity to comprehend and apply copious information, as demonstrated through observable behaviors. This presentation will explore a coaching framework informed by corporate learning and development, Integral Theory relational practices, somatic psychology perspectives on motivation and trauma, and applied sociocognitive neuroscience. A methodology drawing from these distinct fields will be considered for the potential to cultivate learning agility and innovate the learning strategy role.

A pedagogy-first approach to peer mentor EDI training. Ian Garner (Academic Skills Outreach Coordinator), and Lindsay Heggie (Learning Strategies Advisor)
Queen's University

This session explores a redeveloped training model, centred on equity, diversity and inclusion, for peer learning/writing assistants at Queen's. Improvements were grounded in student experiences and research (professional development, peer learning, student development theory). EDI is foregrounded throughout hiring, training, praxes, and evaluation. Using process maps, concrete examples, and feedback from our peers, we intend to impart practical strategies for introducing EDI to peer training models at other institutions with a diverse student body.

Enhancing the Impact and Presence of Supplemental Instruction through Volunteer Leaders. Kerrie Martin (Program Strategist), Martin Carangal (Program Assistant), and Alex Chee (Program Strategist) *University of Toronto*

This session focuses on the development and management of a sustainable Supplemental Instruction (S.I.) program with over 200 volunteer leaders. The presenters will explain the rationale that led UTM to adopt a large-scale, volunteer model, and will highlight some of the key benefits this move has yielded for both the student attendees and peer leaders. The next steps for the program will be discussed, including the introduction of a credit-bearing course for current S.I. leaders.

Fostering Student Community Work: Notes from an Evolving Program. Jonathan Vandor (Learning Strategist) *University of Toronto*

Many students want help with procrastination, time management, and/or goal setting in doing their academic work. To do so, the University of Toronto's Academic Success team has transitioned to a peer-mentored program. Study Hubs now support more students from diverse backgrounds, provide experiential learning opportunities, and deliver more quiet, goal-oriented study times every week. This presentation outlines the factors behind our adaptable framework, along with some challenges and promising results we have encountered to date.

1:50–2:00 Coffee Break

SESSION D

Round table discussion

2:00–2:50

**Round table discussions: Peer Tutoring/ PASS/ Learning Skills Workshops/
Note taking**

Participants will have a choice of taking part in a 50 minute discussion on one of the peer-led services offered in our department at Humber College (*Peer tutoring/ PASS/ Learning Skills Workshops/ Note taking*). Our program coordinators and student leaders will facilitate the discussions, sharing our experiences, insights, best practices, asking questions, and foster an engaging unique cross-institutional dialogue.

Bring flyers, promo material, business cards, etc to share at the round table! Make new connections and strengthen old ones. Use this opportunity to reflect on what you have learned throughout the day and how you can apply your take-aways to your practice.

2:50–3:05 Closing Remarks and Raffle Draws