



June issue

Issue 49, June 2017

A monthly newsletter for UCL E-Learning Champions, and anyone else interested in learning technology, in five sections: **Need To Know**, **Learning**, **What's on**, **Tech Focus** and **Questions**. Please pass around and ask colleagues to subscribe via the link at the bottom.

Need to know

The Lecturecast service is being upgraded



ECHO360'S ACTIVE LEARNING PLATFORM

The Lecturecast upgrade will be deployed to all Lecturecast enabled teaching and learning spaces between 7 - 28 August 2017.

Please note, there will be no recording functionality between these dates.

[Find out more about the Lecturecast upgrade...](#)

Portico enrolments have been globally deactivated

Portico enrolments in Moodle were deactivated globally, 6 weeks into the Summer term on **Monday 5th June 2017**. This means that the automatic enrolment and un-enrolment of students on courses in Moodle to reflect changes in students' registration in SITS has ceased.

Why?

To avoid problems with discontinuing students being unenrolled and their grades being removed from Moodle.

What do I need to do?

Should any students still need to be enrolled on a course after 5th June, who would normally have been enrolled via Portico enrolments, then they will need to be enrolled manually.

Can I re-activate Portico enrolments on my course(s)?

Yes. However, please refer to this [Globally Deactivating Portico Enrolments in Moodle](#) post before you decide to do this.

When will Portico enrolments be globally reactivated?

They will **NOT** be globally re-activated, but you can activate Portico enrolments in your course(s) at any time. However, it will be globally deactivated again 6 weeks into the next term.

If you have any questions regarding this please do contact Digital Education at digi-ed@ucl.ac.uk.

[Find out more about why Portico enrolments are deactivated...](#)

Learning

E-Learning Case Study

Delivering a pre-entry online course to over 3000 postgraduates

UCL Careers' small private online course (SPOC) gives students support before they join UCL. Careers consultants Dave Carter, Sophia Donaldson & Stephen Gurman explain how and why it was developed.

The SPOC, now in its third year, gives students a broad overview of careers support through videos, activities, discussion forums and useful information and documents.

The content covers all aspects of careers development – from preparing CVs and for interviews, to looking for roles and writing PhD applications.

The course builds upon on the success of the University of London's massive online open course (MOOC) aimed at career changers using their central consultancy service. Although some of the information was repurposed from the MOOC where relevant, much of the information was created and collated from scratch, taking around four months to finalise.

[Find out more about the UCL Careers SPOC...](#)

The [UCL Teaching and Learning Portal](#) contains news, resources, case studies and more to help you develop your teaching at UCL.

[Submit a case study to the UCL Teaching and Learning portal.](#)

What's on (and what's gone...)

Webinars and Podcasts

You don't have to be in an educational technology role to find the following valuable.

Here in the UK, the Association for Learning Technology (ALT) have a [newsletter](#) and a number of [special interest groups](#) with their own recorded and live events. ALT-C, its annual conference, has been [recording keynotes](#) and selected other sessions for some years now.

The Online Learning Consortium is (very broadly) the US equivalent of ALT. They have a [podcast series](#), a [webinar series](#), and a [newsletter](#).

Unified Communications & Collaboration strategy project

UCL's Information Services Division (ISD) would like your help in establishing a view of how we support collaborative working at UCL and what it could mean to have a more unified approach. Very few people at UCL work in isolation; most of us work with others, whether it be staff, students, third parties or suppliers, so effective communication and collaboration are crucial to getting the best results.

ISD is developing a strategy to improve support for collaborative working and to deliver a more unified approach to working together at UCL. The project team would like to know what you currently use to communicate and collaborate and how they can help you to do that more easily and effectively. They need to look at where UCL is now, so that they can develop a vision of where we want to be.

There is a chance of winning a £50 amazon voucher if you complete the survey and the project team are running requirements gathering workshops. If you, or one of your contacts, would like to attend a Stakeholder Workshop, please send an email to isd.ucc-projects@ucl.ac.uk. There will be light refreshments!

The next workshop will be:

- 14:30 15 June 2017 (1.5 hours) @ IOE – 20 Bedford Way, Room 537

[Find out more and complete the Communication and Collaboration survey...](#)

Automatic assessment of reasoning by equivalence seminar

Prof Chris Sangwin - University of Edinburgh

This seminar will look at automatic assessment and particularly the interplay between calculation and reasoning

- To what extent can we automate the assessment of reasoning now?
- Where are the limits of automatic assessment in the future?

If enough people are interested, the talk will be followed by a practical hands-on with STACK an open-source system for computer-aided assessment in Mathematics and related disciplines, with emphasis on formative assessment. STACK is being used live at a number of institutions, including the UK Open University, Loughborough University, and the University of Birmingham in the UK and can be installed as a Moodle plugin.

Date: **21st of June 2017 10:30 - 12:00**

Location: UCL Institute of Education - 20 Bedford Way (exact location tbc)

At this stage, the organisers are gauging interest in the event and its format. For more details and to be notified of the exact location please register below:

[Register interest in the automatic assessment seminar...](#)

Did you know...?

About the current UCL Wiki issues

There are currently some issues with the [UCL Wiki](#) that are being investigated.



When adding some macros to a wiki page the Preview, Save and Cancel buttons become greyed out, rendering the page un-editable.

The workaround is to avoid adding new macros to wiki pages and make only textual changes. It is also recommended you save pages regularly and if you do get stuck with the greyed out buttons, copy your text and use the back button on the browser. Please note that doing this will mean you will lose any unsaved changes, so you will need to paste, or re-type, your changes back in.

Questions

How long do UCL staff and students have access to Lynda.com?

UCL have recently negotiated access to Lynda.com for a further three years, bringing us to October 2020.

Lynda.com offers a huge range of video tutorials supporting learning in software, creative and business skills – all free to UCL staff and currently enrolled students.



[Find out more and access Lynda.com...](#)



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Questions or comments? Email Digital Education at digi-ed@ucl.ac.uk or call the ISD Service Desk 020 7679 5000 (ext. 25000).

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