2024 Teaching Innovation Days

Schedule at a Glance

The below is an overview of the three-day event. Zoom or Teams links will be provided in the calendar invitations sent prior to the event. Register in the Student portal, using the codes found on page 2 in the [Event Schedule](#).

Tuesday April 30th

9:00 to 10:15 am	**Event Welcome** **Podcasting: Innovating Beyond the Traditional**
10:30 am to 12:00 pm	**Concurrent Workshops** (Choose one of two)
1:00 to 2:30 pm	**Concurrent Workshops** (Choose one of four)
2:45 to 3:45 pm	**Concurrent Workshops** (Choose one of four)

Wednesday May 1st

9:00 to 10:15am	**Faculty Panel: Hot Topics in Polytechnic Education and AI**
10:30am to 12:00pm	**Concurrent Workshops** (Choose one of four)
1:00 to 2:30pm	**Concurrent Workshops** (Choose one of four)
2:45 to 3:45pm	**Concurrent Workshops** (Choose one of three)

Thursday May 2nd

10:30 to 11:10 am	**Engage Your Students and Enhance Your Teaching with Contact North	Contact Nord's AI-powered Apps**
1:00 to 2:30pm	**Keynote Panel - The Future is Now: How Higher Ed is Adapting to and Innovating with Artificial Intelligence**
2:45 to 3:45pm	**Insight Exchange: Generative AI, Innovation, and Education**

Event Schedule

Time	DAY 1: Tuesday, April 30th
9:00 - 10:15am	**Welcome Announcement** (Nancy Nelson) **Podcasting: Innovating Beyond the Traditional – EDV0265** (Lisa Bauman, Claudia Mellad, and Jake Morris) *In this HyFlex event, you have the option of attending online or in-person at Doon campus.* Join us for an exciting session that goes beyond the lecture hall! Come watch a live podcast recording of "Let's Talk Careers" a podcast created by faculty in CDEV courses in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies. The podcast will feature a special guest: Andrew Coppolino, renowned food commentator and CBC columnist. Learn more about the podcast, and see how the podcast hosts, Lisa Bauman and Claudia Mellad, use it to model practical skills and delve into their guests' journeys to success. This session will also help shape an Open Educational resource, making this experience both informative and impactful! Register for this Session
10:15 – 10:30am	**Break**
10:30 - 12:00pm	**Creating Visuals for Teaching with Adobe Express – EDV0283** (Evelyn Schmidt) This session will get you started creating graphics using Adobe Express, a versatile, cloud based design tool. Through demonstration and practice, you will gain the skills to create simple graphics using Adobe Express, and consider scenarios where it would be advantageous to make your own visuals for teaching and learning contexts. You will also explore how Firefly, Adobe's generative AI tool built into Express, can help create novel images through the use of effective prompts. To attend this workshop you will need to request access to the Adobe Creative Cloud Suite through IT Services. Register for this session **The MS Copilot Rollout: What it Means for Faculty – EDV0205** (Nancy Nelson) Microsoft Copilot is a new AI-powered chatbot that can help you work more productively, boost creativity, and understand information better. In this session we'll explore the possibilities and challenges that faculty may experience when collaborating with an AI companion. We'll suggest ways you can safely tinker and play with Copilot to do teaching-related tasks, and answer your questions about the rollout. Register for this session

12:00 – 1:00pm	**Lunch Break**
1:00 – 2:30pm Choose 1 of the 4 workshops in this time slot.	**Tech for Teaching and Assessing Math: Focus Group Results and Faculty Experiments – EDV0262** (Jesslyn Wilkinson, Hamid Karaminiaee Hamedaani, Dorina Grossu) Do you teach math courses or concepts? Did you participate in the focus groups or survey run this spring on tech for math courses and teaching? This session will share information on the challenges and experiences faced by faculty in teaching and assessing math concepts. Two faculty will also share their experiments with using different services to support practice exercises and assessment. Discuss your own experiences, and share ideas on technologies that can support math learning at Conestoga. Register for this Session **Now Anyone Can CAD: Try Onshape for Teaching with Models, Parts and Shape – EDV0268** (Ian Gardiner) Have you always wanted to try CAD or 3D modelling, but never had the chance to pick it up or thought it was too complicated? Are you teaching in a program where being able to virtually model, display, or disassemble equipment or parts can be valuable? This is your opportunity to get hands on experience trying an easy-to-use, feature-rich, and accessible CAD program: Onshape. Learn alongside a senior engineer and longtime faculty member about everyday uses for these models, and how you can readily apply them in your teaching. We'll recycle some existing models, and you'll leave with something you could 3D print at home or your local library. Register for this Session **Calling All H5P Creators: Come Crowdsource with Us – EDV0258** (Kimberlee Carter, Cecile Michniewicz, and Taylor Wilson) In this session, you are encouraged to bring your favourite H5P activity and tell us how you use it for teaching. We will discuss ways in which you can share your work for wider distribution and acknowledgement of your creation. Participants will utilize the CRAAP tool to evaluate H5P activities. Participants will have the opportunity to share into a repotitory their favourite H5P activities. Register for this Session

	eConestoga Quiz Tool Update: Synchronous vs. Asynchronous – EDV0276 (Nathan Gardi) A long-requested feature has been added to eConestoga: Synchronous Quizzes, with a fixed Start and End time. This workshop will breakdown when and how to apply these new settings, and how to make accommodations for individual students when needed. We will also demonstrate security features in eConestoga to ensure academic integrity, such as dynamic Quiz password setting, and student IP address logging. Register for this Session
2:30 - 2:45pm	**Break**
2:45 – 3:45pm Choose 1 of the 4 workshops in this time slot. **Please note, the Student Portal will reflect a longer time span for this session. However, the actual timing will match the times noted on this schedule.**	**Crafting Effective Learning Experiences: Navigating Instructional Design Frameworks – EDV0281** (Jenn Gillespie and Tyler Pollard) Your teaching toolkit is about to level up! In this workshop, you'll explore three powerful instructional design frameworks: ADDIE, Backward Design, and Rapid Prototyping and how they can be modified or adapted to craft effective, student-centered learning experiences. Gain an understanding of how these models are practically applied to developing asynchronous online courses and extend them into designing content for any teaching mode. Register for this Session **eConestoga Course Homepage Walkthrough and Advanced Settings – EDV0277** (Nathan Gardi) The new course homepage experience in eConestoga streamlines access to important information, and introduces new functionality for both instructors and students - such as pinned announcements and custom links. This workshop will provide a detailed walkthrough, as well as advanced tips on how to get the most out of the advanced custom settings available to instructors. We will also share a sneak preview of upcoming Homepage updates. Register for this Session **Showcasing Capstones with Conestoga's Student Research Repository – EDV0264** (Chris Woodley and Ada Wassink) Are you a faculty member teaching capstone courses? Join us for an intro to Conestoga's Student Research Repository—a curated platform that helps showcase projects like capstones. Explore how the repository can enhance the capstone process and learn how to leverage it with support from the Library & Learning Services team. Register for this Session

Cultivating Online Learning Communities – EDV0278 (Erfane Ghasempour Khoshroodi and Brianna Wilkinson)

Join us for an interactive workshop dedicated to cultivating inclusive online learning communities, where trust, privacy, and effective communication thrive. Through exploration of traditional community principles, research-backed strategies, and practical examples, we'll delve into creating engaging content, fostering connections, and ensuring accessibility within the eConestoga platform. From implementing tangible solutions to boosting student engagement and collaboration, this session empowers faculty to lead educational innovation while respecting diverse student needs. Don't miss this opportunity to shape the future of education—join us and transform your online courses into dynamic hubs of learning and connection.

Register for this Session

Time	DAY 2: Wednesday, May 1
9:00 - 10:15am	**Panel: Hot Topics in Polytechnic Education and AI – EDV0273** (Facilitated by Elan Paulson) Join us for a lively discussion with a panel of experienced college faculty. They will delve into hot topics such as the integration of AI in curriculum, exploring AI in the classroom and its impact on student learning, industry adoption of AI, and more. Let's consider some of the buzzy and burning issues about how AI is re-shaping the polytechnic education landscape. Register for this Session
10:15 – 10:30am	**Break**
10:30 - 12:00pm Choose 1 of the 4 workshops in this time slot.	**Etext Evolution: Transitioning from Texidium to VitalSource – EDV0274** (Kevin Brown and Wayne Dolson) The Bookstore has entrusted VitalSource as our new eReader for the eText program. Join us for a first look at switching out your course link and at the VitalSource Bookshelf eReader features. We'll guide you through its intuitive tools, making you feel right at home. Experiment with the tools, ask questions, and discover how they enhance your teaching toolkit. Share ideas on leveraging eReader tools for effective course delivery. We'll walk you through the seamless shift to VitalSource so that you'll be well-prepared through the Fall 2024 transition. Register for this Session **Virtual Agencies - Using Virtual Reality in the Postsecondary Classroom – EDV0257** (Dr. William A. Martin, PhD) The adoption of immersive virtual reality (I-VR) as a pedagogical tool for postsecondary education has challenged the notion of what constitutes a proper learning environment. High fidelity graphics and immersive content using head-mounted-displays (HMD) provide students with complex ways in which to express their opinions on difficult matters that traditional tools cannot. Although pedagogical research focusing on I-VR use, heretofore, has been sparse; much of what has been published, has been positive. For example, I-VR was shown to provide a "significant learning advantage" to students over less immersive pedagogical tools, such as desktop computers and/ or slideshows. Register for this Session

	Looping You In: Transforming Classroom Collaboration with Microsoft Loop – EDV0269 (Derek Bragg) Join us for an interactive workshop designed for educators and faculty members eager to enhance their curriculum with cutting-edge collaborative technology. In this session, we will introduce Microsoft Loop, a dynamic platform that brings the fluidity of collaboration to your classroom. Discover how to integrate Loop into your courses through practical examples and engaging interactive exercise. You'll learn how to create a more interactive and responsive learning environment, streamline communication, and foster teamwork among your students. Register for this Session **Our ChAInging Work: A Roundtable – EDV0267** (Facilitated by Elan Paulson) This roundtable discussion brings colleagues together to explore the impact of current and future AI adoption in various college units and areas. Participants will share how AI is beginning to support (even transform) their work, and what AI tools are being used. They will also reflect on the impact of their innovations and what they are hopeful for in the future. Register for this Session
12:00 – 1:00pm	**Lunch Break**
1:00 – 2:30pm Choose 1 of the 4 workshops in this time slot.	**Empower Learners' EES with Bodyswaps AR/VR Simulations – EDV0275** (Corey Berry and Katrina Fraser) *In this HyFlex event, you have the option of attending online or in-person at Doon campus.* Attend in person or online! Discover the transformative power of Bodyswaps simulations. We'll explore how this suite of immersive experiences can enhance essential employability skills (EES). From effective communication to adept conflict resolution, Bodyswaps equips learners with practical abilities they can apply in real-world scenarios. Join us to learn how to integrate Bodyswaps into your eConestoga course and leverage our cutting-edge Virtual Reality labs. Let's empower your students for success! This session does not require VR headsets for participation. Register for this Session

	Teaching to Tinker with Code: How to make code demos more Active and Engaging – EDV0263 (Ryan Deschamps) This session is great for faculty who teach or know code or markdown! We'll dive into practical and active approaches to teaching code. We'll discuss how learning tech is more than theory—it's often a "doing" activity. We'll explore how it starts with imitation and evolves into adaptive and creative behaviors. Using simple code, specifically project management diagrams in MermaidJS, we'll co-learn effective method s for teaching code demos actively. Engage in discussions with your colleagues, exchange ideas, and walk away with fresh strategies for teaching through interactive code demos. Register for this Session **Visualizing Education: Harnessing AI with CoPilot and Firefly – EDV0256** (Taylor Wilson) This workshop will guide participants through the innovative use of AI tools such as CoPilot and Firefly for creating visually compelling materials for teaching. Participants will learn how to harness the potential of these tools to generate a wide range of visuals, including images, icons, and more, tailored to educational contexts. Additionally, the workshop will cover practical strategies for accessing and leveraging college-licensed accounts to maximize the benefits of AI-powered visual creation in teaching and learning environments. Whether you're a seasoned educator or just starting to explore AI in education, this workshop will provide valuable insights and hands-on experience to enhance your teaching toolkit. Register for this Session
2:30 - 2:45pm	**Break**

2:45 – 3:45pm Choose 1 of the 4 workshops in this time slot. **Please note, the Student Portal will reflect a longer time span for this session. However, the actual timing will match the times noted on this schedule.**	**Overcoming Content Creation Hurdles with Media & Design Services from the Online Learning Centre – EDV0266** (Jessica D'Uva and Amy Eaton) There are many myths surrounding content creation when it comes to video production and graphic design. It's too time consuming; way too expensive; those tools are only for experts. Together we'll break down these myths and discover tools and approaches that will help you create engaging media and polished content. Plus, hear how you can work together with Media & Design Services on your next big idea. Register for this Session **Creative Uses for Groups in eConestoga – EDV0279** (Nathan Gardi) In this workshop we take a deep dive into the various uses for the Groups tool functionality in eConestoga. We will cover the standard case of an assessment that is co-authored and submitted together. However, we will also look at interesting ways the Groups tool can be leveraged for formative collaboration and communication between students in eConestoga. When combined with other features, the Groups tool can also allow you to release specific content to targeted students, or distribute multiple versions of an Assignment or Quiz to your class. Register for this Session **VARLab Unleashed: Transforming Teaching with AR/VR Simulations – EDV0259** (Corey Berry and Katrina Frase) Are you curious about using or building learning simulations, but are not sure where to start? Learn more about the different types of learning simulations that faculty are designing in collaboration with the VARlab! Try out a few different sims, and see the process faculty take as they journey through the design, development, and implementation of a digital simulation. Leave this workshop feeling inspired to take learning in a new direction, with help from the VARLab! Register for this Session

Time	DAY 3: Thursday, May 2
10:30 – 11:10 am **Bonus Session!**	**Engage Your Students and Enhance Your Teaching with Contact North | Contact Nord's AI-powered Apps** (Dr. Ron Owston) This session is brought to Conestoga through collaboration with the Advancing Learning Conference. Part time faculty will not be compensated for attending. In this interactive session you will have the opportunity to explore AI Tutor Pro and AI Teaching Assistant Pro, two cutting-edge free AI apps recently launched by Contact North | Contact Nord. Discover how AI Tutor Pro can engage learners in an interactive and responsive dialog to learn any topic at any level in many different languages. Find out how AI Teaching Assistant Pro tools can help instructors create multiple choice questions, draft essay questions with scoring rubrics, and build a course syllabus on any topic complete with teaching notes and PowerPoint slides. You will get a guided tour of the two apps and have an opportunity to test drive them with a set of guided activities. You will also have a preview of new features of both apps about to be launched. The session will be led by Dr. Ron Owston, the chief designer of the apps, who will be able to answer any questions you have about the tools. No prior knowledge of AI will be expected for the session. Join the session here
1:00 – 2:30pm	**Keynote Panel - The Future is Now: How Higher Ed is Adapting to and Innovating with Artificial Intelligence – EDV0261** (Nancy Nelson, Elan Paulson, Jesslyn Wilkinson) *In this HyFlex event, you have the option of attending online or in-person at Doon campus.* Brought to you in partnership with the Educational Technology Committee of Ontario, this panel event will feature three distinguished innovators in higher ed. Their discussion will explore how higher ed organizations are integrating AI into higher education, and reshaping the ways in which they teach, learn, and innovate. Amanda Coolidge, Executive Director of BCcampus, will share insights on using AI to democratize education and enhance open learning. Lance Eaton, Director of Faculty Development and Innovation at College Unbound, will share insights on working with students, faculty and organizations to adapt to the AI wave. Dave Cormier, Digital Learning Strategist at the University of Windsor, will explore how we as educators can adapt within the uncertainties of major digital innovations. This discussion will provide educators with insights into the current trends, challenges, and opportunities AI brings to higher education, offering practical strategies for and optimistic but realistic takes on what comes next. Register for this Session

2:30 - 2:45pm	**Break**
2:45 – 3:30pm **Please note, the Student Portal will reflect a longer time span for this session. However, the actual timing will match the times noted on this schedule.**	**Insight Exchange: Generative AI, Innovation, and Education – EDV0271** (Nancy Nelson, Elan Paulson, Jesslyn Wilkinson) After an inspiring keynote panel on Generative AI and its impact on higher ed, this workshop provides a space for faculty members to reflect, discuss, and synthesize key takeaways. Through guided conversations, participants will delve into the panel's insights, explore implications, and consider actionable steps for integrating these ideas into their teaching and research. Register for this Session