

# Fund for Innovative Teaching Grant, 2016-2017

## FINAL REPORT

Authors: Claire Hay, Mary Gene Saudelli, PhD, and Michelle Johnson

To: Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic

Title of Project: Making Learning Evident with ePortfolios: Exploring a Faculty Development Opportunity through Participatory Action Research

### Summary of the Learning Activities Planned & Undertaken

This FIT funded, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning project was an exploration of faculty development in relation to the integration of ePortfolios as a high impact practice into the Arts degree program. Thus, the project represents a faculty development response to change to curriculum, in addition to scholarly research regarding faculty development in relation to that curricular change. It is also a scholarly study of the change and faculty development through a participatory action research study methodology.

Several learning activities were involved, not just for the principle researchers, but also for the research assistant hired to assist with the project.

- a. An study of the role of Faculty development at UFV
- b. Completion of informal researcher training in qualitative, action research methodology for researchers
- c. Claire, Michelle and Judy Jones (research assistant) completed CORE 2 Tutorial from Canada Tri Council
- d. Research Ethics Clearance
- e. Delivery of faculty development in relation to ePortfolio curricular change at Chandigarh campus and Canadian campus of UFV
- f. Recruitment of participation in surveys post facilitation
- g. Completion of researchers debriefing pre study, during study, and post study
- h. Reflection journals of researchers delivering faculty development
- i. Data collection and analysis
- j. Presentation at STLHE 2017 conference in Halifax -
- k. Development of Best Practices Handbook – final editing underway
- l. Development of manuscript for publication (almost complete) listing all researchers as authors including research assistant
- m. Future activity: attending to peer review feedback in the publication process

### Identify Individuals Involved in the Delivery Project Activities & Outcomes

Dr. Saudelli, Claire Hay, and Michelle Johnson led the project activities and outcomes. Judy Jones was hired as a research assistant and she was significantly involved in the delivery of the project activities

and is a named author in both the manuscript and handbook. In addition, Dr. Wideman assisted with the manuscript project activity and is a named author.

Intended outcomes of the project:

1. Create a UFV Best Practices in ePortfolio Pedagogy in Higher Education Handbook in both digital and print form for improved teaching and learning practice at UFV. This handbook would represent an ongoing and evolving handbook, where new insights are continually added and will be hosted on the Teaching and Learning Centre website as a resource for all faculty.
2. Explore the role of professional development for faculty implementing a High Impact Practice change at the department level or program level in relation to incorporating ePortfolio.
3. Inquiry into the transfer of learning from faculty to the students' learning experience in relation to ePortfolio.

#### Degree to which the Significant Goals and/or Objectives of the Proposal were Achieved

All significant goals and objectives were achieved or are in process. Not only did a faculty member engage in a SoTL project, but so did an educational developer and an undergraduate research assistant. This project has 1 manuscript for publication, and a best practice ePortfolio handbook in development. Both are in the final stages of completion.

- a. Standing at the Edge of Tomorrow: ePortfolio and Faculty Development in a Canadian University. Authors - Mary Gene Saudelli, Claire Hay, Michelle Johnson, Judy Jones, Maureen Wideman. To be submitted to the Canadian Journal of Education prior to November 1, 2018
- b. ePortfolios Best Practices Handbook – A guide for Faculty. The Handbook continues to be in development. This will be hosted on the Teaching and Learning website as a resource for all faculty (final edits underway; online in October 2018). Authors - Claire Hay, Michelle Johnson, Mary Gene Saudelli, Judy Jones, UFV TLC. (A copy will be sent to VP Academic's office when final editing is complete).

The following workshops and conference presentations resulted from this project:

Hay, C., Johnson, M., and Saudelli, M. (2017) *Folio Thinking: Making Learning Meaningful*. Workshop, Symposium 2017: Scholarly Teaching and Learning in Post-Secondary Education, Vancouver, 6 Nov 2017.

Saudelli, M., Johnson, M., and Hay, C. (2017) *Looking at the gates of tomorrow: supporting Arts faculty implementing an ePortfolio curriculum change*. Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, Annual Meeting, Halifax, NS, 21-23 June 2017.

Saudelli, M., Johnson, M., and Hay, C. (2017) *Capturing the Learning using ePortfolio*. Workshop, UFV PD Day, Abbotsford, May 2, 2017.