Re-conceptualising approaches to academic development in technology-enriched learning environments

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A University of the Tropics

- **Townsville**: Australia’s largest tropical city
- **Cairns**: Where rainforest meets reef
- **Singapore**: Business hub for Asia
- **Brisbane**: Queensland’s capital city
- **Mackay**: The sugar capital of Australia
- **Mount Isa**: The hub of Queensland’s vast North-West
- **Thursday Island**: The most northerly town in Australia
• Learning and Teaching Plan
  – *Deliver flexible and inclusive learning environments that capitalise on both face to face and virtual innovations.*

• Blended Learning Policy

• Learning and Teaching BluePrint
The challenge

Changing from this

To this
Collaborative learning spaces
Transitioning staff to new technology-enriched spaces

and this
Further challenges

Multi-campus teaching by videoconference
Aim of the research

• To contribute to research on effective academic development approaches which support the transitioning process when staff and students move into new technology-enriched learning spaces with new opportunities for active and collaborative learning approaches
Themes of the paper

1. Research into practice
2. Professional learning programs
3. Support for staff and students
1. Research into practice. An integrated approach
2. Professional learning opportunities

- Professional Learning Series
- Communities of practice
- Graduate Certificate in Academic Practice
- New staff induction
- Spaces familiarisation program
- Just in time PD activities
Working at the COAL FACE:
Developing active learning and teaching strategies to engage Learners across multiple campuses through videoconference and blended learning.

WORKSHOP

Exploring Common Learning spaces at JCU

Presented by
Janet Buchan (Academic Developer)

in conjunction with

Teaching and Learning Development

James Cook University

Videoconferencing and Audio Visual Services

ED5301

Graduate Certificate of Education (Academic Practice)
3. Support for staff

- Academic developer
- Communities of Practice
- Videoconferencing & Audio Visual Services
- Self-help - Online resources
- 2013 Learning Space Mentors
- 2014 InfoHelp Rovers
Student Rovers supporting staff

InfoHELP Rovers – our Learning Spaces Aces

- At the start of SP 1 InfoHELP Rovers will be supporting targeted teaching spaces and common learning spaces including the Library
- Rovers will support academic staff in the basic operation of audio-visual equipment and technology in some teaching rooms
- Assist teaching staff in reporting support issues and service outages to AV Services staff.
- Support students in using the teaching room technology in collaborative learning classrooms and videoconference rooms during targeted time periods
Student Rovers supporting students

**Need some IT help...?**
**...Look for an InfoHELP Rover**

Get help with:
- Connecting to the eduroam (wireless) network
- Email, LearnJCU, printing and more.

Where will they be?
- Student learning spaces, eg. Mabo Library, Education Central, Business undercroft, Nursing.
- Look for someone in a blue JCU polo shirt with **InfoHELP Rover** on the back.

Library & Information Services
InfoHelp@jcu.edu.au
Telephone: +61 7 4781 5500

Supported by your SSA Fee
Building better student experience

Publicity
“I want to commend TLD on the introduction of Learning Space Mentors this year. It has been amazing for new and old staff to have a technically competent mentor come and get them started at the beginning of a session. Lecturers have been able to focus on greeting students and teaching the instead of fluffing around with unfamiliar technology and adjusting lighting. This has taken much of the stress out of the initial first year lectures. A splendid initiative.” (Associate Dean Teaching & Learning, Cairns. 2013)

“Without the InfoHelp Rovers’... service it is possible some of the students might just drop out. They were really lost that [first] week. (InfoHelp Rover)

Many thanks Janet. The two InfoHelp Rovers were of an invaluable assistance yesterday morning, both kept busy...assisting students with personal laptops and mobile / tablet devices to download required software. (Lecturer, Technology Enhanced Active Learning Room, Townsville)
Communities of Practice

- Teaching & Learning Academy
- Learning Spaces Special Interest Group
- Research Groups
- Learning Spaces Leadership Group
- Teaching & Learning Development Grants Collaboration
- Multiple stakeholders
Online, self-help resources

Learning and Teaching

Contemporary learning spaces

Contemporary learning spaces encourage active and collaborative learning experiences. These spaces need to be flexible to allow teachers and students to adapt to a range of approaches. JCU’s campuses offer modern learning spaces that range from formal spaces including lecture theatres, tutorial rooms and practical laboratories to smaller, flexible spaces. JCU will continue to explore developments and technologies that offer innovative learning spaces for students.

Academic development and learning spaces

TLD offers academic development support for staff towards the effective use of learning spaces and learning technology. Teaching in the New Learning Spaces (PDF 2MB) is an introductory guide to interactive strategies in active learning classrooms.

Together with the Learning and Teaching Academy, TLD is leading research into JCU’s learning spaces including the transition of staff and students to new learning spaces.

Teaching and Learning Academy

Learning Spaces Special Interest Group

JCU Contemporary Learning spaces


Teaching in the new learning spaces

Student

Virtual Room

AV Services

Move the mouse over the picture, left click and drag in the direction you wish to explore. To zoom in/out, place the mouse cursor anywhere on the image and press the Shift or Ctrl key.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Browse the SNAPSHOTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The value of peer to peer learning spaces</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The features and variety of student use of peer to peer learning spaces are described</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAY VIDEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>An overview of the affordances of Education Central</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAY VIDEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Never too old to learn, never too young to teach,</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The XO Professors. Young prep-students turn teachers in the TEAL room, sharing their knowledge and skills with XO laptops with pre-service teachers and lecturers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAY VIDEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Effective use of technology in a large Collaborative Lecture Theatre</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space design and technology in the collaborative lecture theatre support a blended learning approach in a large undergraduate course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAY VIDEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Blending for interactive learning in a large class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A blended learning approach in a large undergraduate course is supported by technology in the collaborative lecture theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAY VIDEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collaborative learning in practice</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff and students describe their experiences of collaborative learning in the different types of spaces in Education Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAY VIDEO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Learning Spaces SNAPSHOTS Project

Aim

The Learning Spaces SNAPSHOTS Project aims to capture examples of active learning and teaching in on-campus learning spaces at JCU. The snapshots will be used for a variety of purposes: as learning resources for professional development programmes, as self-help resources for staff, to showcase good practice and to promote JCU.

The process of capturing and creating the snapshots is a professional learning opportunity and will encourage guided reflection on personal teaching practice by using sound learning design principles.
The Learning Spaces SNAPSHOT Project captures examples of the effective use of learning spaces and teaching and learning in action at JCU. Through the SNAPSHOTs academic staff share insights into their teaching approaches and how they are using different rooms and technology to engage students in a variety of active and collaborative learning experiences. Staff give valuable insight into how the features of specific spaces (rooms) and technology enable different modes of learning.

[https://sites.google.com/site/jculearningspaces/home/the-project](https://sites.google.com/site/jculearningspaces/home/the-project)

# Pedagogy in Practice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SNAPSHOT</th>
<th>Pedagogy/ Learning and teaching strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An overview of the affordances of Education Central</td>
<td>Education Central provides a variety of spaces that support a range of modalities of learning: discursive, reflective, active and collaborative learning as well as didactic (lecture) modes. The multiple screen technology and room design facilitates self-directed, student-led and teacher led learning. The building design and variety of spaces support the JCU focus on purposeful blended learning approaches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative learning in practice</td>
<td>Students and staff outline their experience of collaborative learning in the different spaces in Education Central. The features of the spaces which afford formal and informal collaborative learning are described.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The value of peer to peer learning spaces</td>
<td>Peer to peer learning spaces are being used to support student learning; formal student support is provided by Learning Skills Advisers; co-located school offices mean students can access ad hoc support from staff; students form informal study groups; students take ownership of their spaces and social learning takes place over a cup of coffee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective use of technology in a large Collaborative Lecture Theatre</td>
<td>The space design and technology in the large collaborative lecture theatre (150+) supports purposeful blended learning approaches. This includes mixing didactic teaching of large classes with small group work and technology-enabled learning. The variety of AV technology affords the use of a range of technology. The document camera is used for live demonstrations of solutions/problem solving; use of two projector screens allows the simultaneous use of a presentation and other media such as document camera or tablet. Wide desks and movable chairs allow students to easily form small groups for discussion and for lecturers to move amongst students to provide individual assistance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blending for interactive learning in a large class</td>
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</tbody>
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*James Cook University Australia*
## Navigate by Spaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room/Space</th>
<th>SNAPSHOT Description</th>
<th>Pedagogy/Learning and teaching strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education Central</strong></td>
<td>An overview of the affordances of Education Central. <a href="#">PLAY VIDEO</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Peer to peer learning spaces</strong></td>
<td>Collaborative learning in practice <a href="#">PLAY VIDEO</a></td>
<td>Peer to peer learning, independent learning, reflective, small group learning, social learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>134-010 Collaborative Lecture Theatre</strong></td>
<td>Effective use of technology in a large Collaborative Lecture Theatre. <a href="#">PLAY VIDEO</a></td>
<td>Large class teaching, didactic learning, collaboration, blended learning approaches, flipped classroom approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>134-021 TEAL Room</strong></td>
<td>Engaging students in active learning. <a href="#">PLAY VIDEO</a></td>
<td>Active learning, collaborative learning, group work, team work, blended learning approaches, technology-enabled learning, Indigenous pedagogy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Navigate by Technology

Virtual podiums

Videoconferencing and Audio Visual Services
Video sample

Collaborative learning in practice
Conclusion

Integrated academic development for technology-enriched learning spaces
Live links

• L&T Spaces webpage

• Learning Spaces SIG

• Learning Spaces SNAPSHOTS
  https://sites.google.com/site/jculearningspaces/home/the-project

• JCU Contemporary Learning spaces

• Video 5:55 – 7:13 Collaborative learning in practice. Overview
• Video 4:48 – 5:55 Renae