Why might post-secondary institutions provide support for campus-based educational development and professional learning? What dimensions describe the implementation of campus-based educational development? What are the similarities and differences between educational development and professional learning? What directions and dilemmas are evident as we look towards future initiatives for enhancing teaching and learning in higher education?

This study presents a comprehensive synthesis of educational development and professional learning dimensions. Conceptual frameworks, process charts and diagrams illustrate this investigation built on the framework of structures (forms) and practices (functions). Chapters investigate each dimension and identify initiatives and resources to enhance campus-based educational development. Included is a thorough overview of classic and current references to post-secondary teaching and learning enhancement literature. The study concludes with a set of emerging directions and potential avenues for future practice and research.

Educational development at a systems level is investigated as twenty-one British Columbia colleges, institutes, undergraduate and graduate universities participated. The study may have broader applications and is currently guiding development of post-secondary teaching and learning enhancement initiatives in international settings. This Open Education Resource documents an impressive range of educational development and professional learning initiatives. As one of the research ethics review conditions, study authors removed institutional identifiers, which is a benefit as the study is focused on models, frameworks and processes that do not change as quickly as individual institutional practices.

Dilemmas and directions are identified that will influence the future shape of educational development and professional learning. The discussion of what it means to be involved with ‘educational development’ versus ‘professional learning’ is a fascinating one. The study also documents the horizons as scholarly teaching and the scholarship of teaching and learning are more strongly incorporated in institutional processes. Discussions also focus on leadership for learning as well as the potential of mobile and e-learning in shaping the future of educational development and professional learning.

To ease access, the study is available as a wiki and as an academic paper. We are very interested in your perspectives and encourage your comments through the forum.

SCoPE Discussion Page: http://urls.bccampus.ca/24h


Contacts for study authors:
Nancy Randall nancy.randall@viu.ca
Penny Heaslip pheaslip@tru.ca
Diane Morrison dianemorrison@shaw.ca