



TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

TRU's Kamloops campus is situated on the traditional lands of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc within Secwépemc'ulucw, the traditional territory of the Secwépemc people.

Minding the Gap

Lessons Learned From a K-12 –
Higher Ed Collaboration in STEAM

From K-12 to Higher Ed



- Matt is qualified as HS teacher (NB).
- Has worked in higher ed for almost entire career (college; university).
- Is now Coordinator, Educational Technologies at TRU.
- Elizabeth is the District Coordinator, Technology-School District No. 73.

Mind the Gap

- A collaboration between TRU and SD 73.
- Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT)
- Faculty of Education and Social Work.
- School District #73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

“To support idea sharing between faculty and teachers, and in the development of collaborative projects”

Info, Resources



<http://bit.ly/MTG-Collab>

<https://mindthegap.trubox.ca/>

<https://learningtech.trubox.ca/open-doors-steam-2019/>

Initial Goals



- To provide SD73 students the opportunity to engage with TRU faculty, staff, students, and others within the community on career opportunities in Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math (STEAM).
- Over the duration of the project this became focused on secondary level girls— specifically girls in grade ten.

Why STEAM?

- STEM is important.
- TRU and SD 73--- and our local community--- place high emphasis on Arts as well.
- Broaden offerings, level of interest.
- Next year: STEAMD ?

Why Girls?

- We felt that girls often do not see themselves in technical or scientific roles.
 - We wanted highlight what women are achieving in these areas and what girls can aspire to.
- ... And to highlight the possibilities for rewarding, dynamic careers in a wide range of areas.

Why Grade 10?



- Narrow the scope of the initial offering (logistics).
- Did not want to overlap with other programming on campus:
 - i.e., A Day of Arts and Science (grade 11 students)
- To speak to the point that it is never too early to become involved in higher ed.

Initial Process

- Meeting in September 2018 to plan K-16 STEM / STEAM collaboration.
- Met throughout fall 2018 to refine concept, plan further.
- Logistics planning: rooms, food orders, student enrollment, parent permissions, transportation, teacher release for supervision, speaker participation, event promotion all took place in late 2018 and early 2019.

Open Learning

- In addition to the MTG initiative, TRU's Open Learning division was a major sponsor.
 - Financial support
 - Graphic design, web support
 - Logistics
 - Volunteers

Moral support and creative suggestions

What does K-12/HE collaboration look like within your local context?

Open Doors in STEAM



- The event took place on May 3, 2019.
- 65 students registered from throughout SD 73. This was close to the maximum number that could be accommodated by TRU in a single room in AE Building.
- A full day of interactive discussions and learning activities facilitated by TRU faculty, staff, and students; also including professionals, entrepreneurs, executives, and leaders from a wide range of private and public sector organizations.

High Achieving Presenters



Our presenters were awesome

<https://learningtech.trubox.ca/open-doors-steam-2019/>

Learning Technology



- Google apps: registration and feedback
 - SD 73 has G-Suite throughout
 - Some G-Suite capability at TRU
- Some use of WordPress (TRUBox)
- Video presentation (podium) from BC Advanced Education, Skills and Training Minister Honourable Melanie Mark
- Classroom / podium technology

This suite of applications may be expanded as part of 2020 offering

How can learning technology help improve the quality of the transition between K-12 and HE?

Participant Feedback

It was all perfect. I feel so empowered and inspired.

The whole day was great.

Great range of presenters.

Suggestions for Improvement

- *Bus scheduling obviously.*
- *More variety of careers .*
- *An optometrist should come in.*
- *Maybe something interactive or physical.*

Lessons Learned

- The interest in this event— students and the wider community— was surprising.
- With more resources, this event could easily be “scaled up”; i.e., to include larger numbers of students.
- Apply for MTG and/or other funding well in advance.
- Confirm all elements of student involvement, particularly with permissions and transportation, well in advance.

STEAM (or STEAMD) 2020

- Preparations are under way.
- Looking to scale up the event: 100+
- Mindful of logistics challenges.
- Engage with a wide range of presenters.
- Enhanced learning technology component: particularly web conferencing.

What platforms and/or pedagogies would be supportive of this kind of programming?

Future Involvement?

- We are aiming for mid-Feb 2020 (reading week).
- Visit Kamloops! Attend or present at STEAM and also Teaching Practices Colloquium (TPC) on February 18.

<https://www.tru.ca/tpc.html>

Thank you!!

Questions, comments, further discussion
welcome!

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