



University of Otago  
Distance Learning

# **The Distance Campus Staff Newsletter**

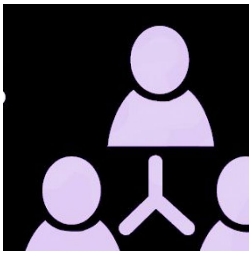
## Important Dates

- 16 August: [DL Teaching Forum](#)
- 17 August: [DL Administration Forum](#)
- 19 August: Graduation ([live streaming](#))
- 26 August: Mid-semester break begins
- 4 September: Semester 2 resumes

# Contents

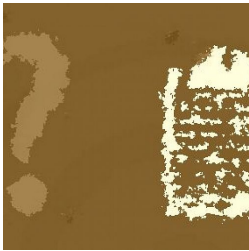
**August 2017** *by Distance Learning*

Welcome to this issue of the staff newsletter.



**Professional Development workshops** *by Distance Learning*

to support your distance teaching and research.



**August Distance Learning Staff Forums** *by Distance Learning*

The DL Forums for staff are held four times a year.



**Reminders for your students** *by Distance Learning*

for you can encourage them to participate! Some are coming up very soon.



**Resources, workshops, & conferences** *by Distance Learning*

to support you in your distance teaching and research.



**Useful OFDL Links (regular feature)** *by Distance Learning*

to various OFDL-related professional associations and organisations.

# August 2017

Distance Learning — August 1st, 2017

Welcome to this issue of the staff newsletter.

This month, the usual 'bits and bobs':

- a few journals that you may be interested in reading or publishing your research in
- notices about the upcoming Distance Learning Forums for staff
- notices about workshops on distance teaching, happening across the rest of the year
- reminders to pass on to your students.

As always, we would love to hear from you. If you have a short story or item of news to share concerning your distance teaching then we would be very pleased to include it in the newsletter.

Please contact Fiona Stuart in the Distance Learning Office. ([fiona.stuart@otago.ac.nz](mailto:fiona.stuart@otago.ac.nz))

Finally, for your information, the August student newsletter can be found here:  
<https://hail.to/uni/publication/RXyf284>



Photo by Distance Learning

# Professional Development workshops

Distance Learning — August 1st, 2017

to support your distance teaching and research.

Notices about the DISTAID workshops, the Carpe Diem workshop, and a workshop on supervising research students at a distance - all coming up in the next couple of months.

Please contact Sarah ([sarah.stein@otago.ac.nz](mailto:sarah.stein@otago.ac.nz)) for further information about any of the following workshops.

Also, please contact Sarah, if you would like to arrange a tailored workshop for you and your colleagues, on any campus, or via Zoom.

## **DISTAID workshops (via Zoom):**

### ***Supporting learning and teaching through ASSESSMENT of distance student work***

**Date, Time:** 6 September, 10am – 12pm

**Facilitator:** Dr Sarah Stein

**Description:** In this workshop, you will be asked to consider principles underpinning effective assessment, with a particular focus upon important factors that become critical when teaching at a distance.

**Register here:** <https://corpapp.otago.ac.nz/training/dl/course/course/list/>

### ***Get them and keep them!: SUPPORTING distance students (and you)***

**Date, Time:** 15 September, 10am – 12pm

**Facilitator:** Dr Sarah Stein

**Description:** In distance papers students often find it difficult to maintain motivation and engagement for the length of the course. This workshop highlights a range of practical ways in which you can support students to learn effectively at a distance throughout their course.

**Register here:** <https://corpapp.otago.ac.nz/training/dl/course/course/list/>

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## **Carpe Diem/Kia tū, kia maia**

### **A two day workshop for people planning to (re)design a paper to be taught at a distance and/or in Summer School**

**Description:** The workshop aims to provide you with an opportunity to redesign your papers in order to gain maximum teaching and learning benefit from the core digital environment that the University provides for staff and students. The workshop will focus strongly on rethinking how teaching and learning occur in a primarily digital environment in your programme and its constituent papers. It will involve staff from the Library, ITS e-Learning team, instructional design expertise, Summer School and Distance Learning.

**Workshop days:** 16th & 17th October (other commitments such as pre and post meetings with workshop leader/s)

**Where?:** Dunedin (being outside Dunedin is no issue. Contact us to discuss this)

**Register here:** <https://corpapp.otago.ac.nz/training/dl/course/course/list/>

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***Supervising Postgraduate Research Students from, or at, a Distance***

**Dates, Times:** · 29th August, 2pm – 3.30pm

**Description:** This workshop will help you to make decisions about the best ways to use interaction possibilities to facilitate the supervision of your research students when you, your co-supervisors and/or your students are at a distance. We will discuss reasons for using real-time and asynchronous technologies; review techniques to make interactions with your students work and consider ways of finding out if the approaches you adopt are working.

**Register here:** <http://hedc.otago.ac.nz/workshop/list.do?type=HEDC>

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# August Distance Learning Staff Forums

Distance Learning — August 6th, 2017

The DL Forums for staff are held four times a year.

Here are the dates/time and topics for the August ones.

## **DL Administration Forum**

*Topics:*

- Opportunity for you to talk about how the SSR might be affecting your work/role in distance learning
- Discussion about the *2018 DL Information and Support Booklet for Students* (and the one for Staff too!)

*When:* Thursday 17th August, 10am - 11am

*Where:* Zoom - <https://otago.zoom.us/j/777761662>

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## **DL Teaching Forum**

*Topics:*

- The Auckland Centre - possibilities for making use of the Centre and its facilities for distance programmes. Led by [Lynley Browne](#), (Auckland Centre Manager)
- Discussion about the *2018 DL Information and Support Booklet for Students* (and the one for Staff too!)

*When:* Wednesday, 16th August, 10am - 11am

*Where:* Zoom - <https://otago.zoom.us/j/777761662>

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# Reminders for your students

Distance Learning — July 19th, 2017

for you can encourage them to participate! Some are coming up very soon.

Your students have received these notices in their *Distance Campus Newsletter*, and it would be fantastic if you promoted these events to your students.

## Support from Student Learning Development

Student Learning Development offers a range of free workshops and programmes for Otago students. Many of these are only available on campus, but all distance students can contact Student Learning Development for a range of services and resources available to distance students. See their website: <http://www.otago.ac.nz/hedc/students/index.html>

Upcoming workshops: <http://hedc.otago.ac.nz/workshop/list.do?type=SLC>

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### For Doctoral students:

**Workshop:** *Preparing for the Oral Examination*

**Date:** 6 October, 2017

**Venue:** Zoom - <https://otago.zoom.us/j/978183549>

**Register:** email Marcia Botafogo ([marcia.magnobotafogo@otago.ac.nz](mailto:marcia.magnobotafogo@otago.ac.nz))

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### Managing your references

This semester the Library is offering the "Managing your references: An introduction to Endnote in conjunction with Library resources" session to distance students via Zoom.

9th August 1-2pm Presenter: Paula Whitelock

[Please register](#) - this will give you the information on how to connect to Zoom.

If you just have a specific question or problem with Endnote, you should contact your subject librarian or ITS Helpdesk.

You may also watch the Introduction to [Library resources and services via this link](#), to give you a better understanding of what we have on offer.

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### Graduate Research School workshops

The Graduate Research School runs a number of postgraduate workshops via Zoom so distance students can take part.

- For more information about the workshops and to **register**, see: <http://www.otago.ac.nz/graduate-research/community/events/index.html>

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### Higher Education Development Centre

## **Introduction to the Research Journey - 7/8/17**

This workshop provides a comprehensive introduction to the PhD research. It combines presentations on key topics (such as time management, reading effectively, managing the writing process, sustaining motivation and career planning) and sharing experiences. PhD students who are near completion will be available for a panel discussion to share their experiences and provide useful tips. The workshop will be presented via **Zoom**.

<http://hedc.otago.ac.nz/workshop/view.do?id=109266&type=SLC>





Photo by Distance Learning

## Resources, workshops, & conferences

Distance Learning — July 13th, 2017

to support you in your distance teaching and research.

The latest issue of [Distance Education](#) has been published. Lots of interesting articles concerned with "presence".

It is a highly ranked journal, edited by Dr Som Naidoo, who was the keynote speaker last year for our 30 year anniversary of distance learning symposium.

See more about the journal here: <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdie20/current>.

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If you are thinking about possible places to publish your research into your teaching, then you might like to consider the broader higher education journal called, [Practice and Evidence of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education](#) (PESTLHE).

The [latest issue](#) has just been published, so do have a browse. It focusses on evidence-based studies from practitioners, meaning that it is a particularly good place to publish well written reports on those smallish projects that you may have undertaken.

PESTLHE is not only a great place to disseminate your work but also a good place to find easy to read articles with some wonderful ideas that you might find of use in your own teaching.

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The latest issue of the [Commonwealth of Learning's](#) (CoL) open access journal, ***Journal of Learning for Development*** is now out. The journal "provides a forum for the publication of research with a focus on innovation in learning and its contribution to sustainable development".

As such, distance education features prominently in this journal's articles.

You can read or download the full issue here: <http://jl4d.org/index.php/ejl4d/issue/view/12>

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Photo by Distance Learning

## Useful OFDL Links (regular feature)

Distance Learning — August 8th, 2017

to various OFDL-related professional associations and organisations.

Let us know about more we can add to this growing list.

- Ako Aotearoa - <https://ako.aotearoa.ac.nz/>
- The Flexible Learning Association of New Zealand (FLANZ) - <http://flanz.org.nz/>
- The Association for Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE) - <http://www.aace.org/>
- Australasian Council on Open, Distance and eLearning (ACODE) - <http://www.acode.edu.au/>
- Contact North | Nord - <https://contactnorth.ca/>
- The eLearning Guild - <https://www.elearningguild.com/>
- International Council for Distance Education (ICDE) - <http://www.icde.org/>
- LinkedIn elearning resources - <https://learning.linkedin.com/for-higher-education>
- Open and Distance Learning Association of Australia (ODLAA) - <https://odlaa.org/>

Contact the Distance Learning Office ([distance.learning@otago.ac.nz](mailto:distance.learning@otago.ac.nz)) to let us know about more links to add to this list.