Tools of Engagement Project *(TOEP):*
On-demand Discovery Learning Professional Development
(Press release & recruitment announcements)

UB TLC Workshop Description

Tools of Engagement Project *(TOEP):* **On-demand Discovery Learning Professional Development**

Interested in learning about instructional technologies that can be used to help engage students? Then the **Tools of Engagement Project** *(TOEP)* **is just what you need**.

This session will introduce faculty to TOEP, a web-based discovery learning activity designed to help you learn about **instructional technologies that are engaging and functional.**

TOEP provides hands-on experience with online instructional technologies, including blogs, wikis, podcasts & more, that you can explore at your own pace.

Complete a series of short Discovery Exercises designed to help you explore and reflect on **innovative and creative uses of online instructional technologies.**

TOEP runs through spring 2014 and can be completed in as little as 30 minutes per week.

Faculty and staff, selected through peer review, will receive funding to be used toward professional development (valued at $300)! Other incentives, including iTunes gift cards, will also be awarded.

Visit the Tools of Engagement website for more information.

Learning Objectives

- Identify and evaluate a variety of online instructional technologies for the purposes of teaching and learning.
- Reflect on their own learning and outline how online instructional technologies might impact their teaching effectiveness

UB TLC weekly newsletter announcement 10/29/12
Web 2.0 Tools

The Teaching & Learning Center is hosting 2 introductory sessions about the **Tools of Engagement Program** *(TOEP),* an on-demand professional development program. TOEP encourages faculty to explore and learn about freely available online tools in order to effectively integrate these tools into their teaching and research.

This project is funded through a SUNY Innovative Instructional Technology Grant (IITG). Visit the Tools of Engagement website for more information.

Tools of Engagement Project (TOEP): Discovery Learning On-demand Professional Development

[Workshop dates & links to register were inserted here.]

SUNY announces recipients of 2012 Innovative Instruction Technology Grants (IITG) program

[IITG is a competitive grants program](#) open to SUNY faculty and support staff across all disciplines that encourages the development of innovations that meet the [Power of SUNY's transformative vision](#).

The Teaching & Learning Center's Robin Sullivan is the principal investigator for **Tools of Engagement Program (TOEP)**, one of the proposals selected to receive funding. TOEP is an on-demand professional development program that encourages faculty to explore and learn about freely available online tools in order to effectively integrate these tools into their teaching and research.

Learning content and activities for TOEP will be refined during the 2012-13 academic year by faculty and staff from five SUNY campuses who were also part of the grant proposal.

The Teaching & Learning Center will host 2 workshops about the Tools of Engagement Program in November. Look for additional information in upcoming TLC announcements.

A [complete list of IITG grant-funded projects](#) is available online.

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Tiered Announcements

Recruitment Announcement 1
Projected use/timeline: Circulate a month or so before workshops.

Are you interested in experiencing freely available instructional technology tools that you can use in your teaching? Attend this session to get acquainted with a discovery learning approach for exploring tools that are both "way cool" and functional. **This is not an online course**, but instead gives you access to some mighty cool resources to explore on your own.

The *Tools of Engagement Project (TOEP)* is an on-demand professional development program

that aids instructors in exploring free online Web 2.0 tools. The big idea is to give faculty & staff focused resources to help both learn and integrate these tools into their own practice.

TOEP's funding has been renewed and expanded thanks to an *Innovative Instructional Technology Grant* (IITG) through the SUNY Provost's Office. Ten SUNY campuses are collaborating during the 2013-14 academic year. The ten collaborating campuses include University at Buffalo, Binghamton University, Buffalo State, SUNY Cortland, SUNY Fredonia, Finger Lakes Community College, Brockport College, Purchase College, and the Fashion Institute of Technology.

What you can expect...
Please stay posted. The TOEP Team will be reaching out soon.

Once you become a TOEP participant...
From October 15th through March 3rd, you will have access to a project website that guides you through online learning experiences with current web-based tools. This is not a structured online course! There is no specific time commitment per day or week, and no required workshop or other session attendance. All resources are readily available online. We expect that the average participant will spend about a half an hour per week, exploring resources and trying out tools.

What's in it for you...
Emerging technologies on the web are changing the ways that educators, researchers, and students access information and communicate with each other. *TOEP* will help instructors adapt to the rapidly changing landscape. It is a voluntary discovery learning activity that features hands-on experience with web tools, including blogging, Wikis, podcasting, curation tools, and more. The project will give faculty options to explore freely available online tools for use in today's teaching and learning environments. The experience is a "perfect" blend...no huge demands, lots of focused resources, learning at your own pace.

The project experiences are set up in easily-done shorter steps. We encourage participants to do a little at a time, and try it all. If you finish, you will receive a certificate of completion and be eligible for a prize. A drawing will be held among those who complete all activities, awarding tablet devices and several iTunes cards. All activities must be completed no later than March 3rd, 2014. Only faculty and staff at participating TOEP SUNY campuses are eligible to be entered into the drawing for incentives.

Who should participate...
Think about joining us if you are:
- New faculty (full-time or part-time, tenure-track, term, or adjunct appointments)
- Faculty who are new to or interested in online and/or hybrid instruction
- Faculty interested in incorporating current web-based tools into your courses and/or student assignments
- Faculty whose job involves working with preservice educators

FAQs...

- ### ***Will there be help available?***
  When you run into questions/challenges, you will be working together with other faculty and early adopters of these tools who will provide support as you progress through the learning activities. The TOEP Team will also be online and will provide guidance and support.

- ### ***To fully participate, besides exploring the resources, what must I do?***
  At the beginning of your work, you will start your own Blog, (in three easy steps). Publishing updates to it about your experiences with the tools will be how you document what you have done. There is NOT an obligation to use these tools in your teaching and practice; however, we are unabashedly encouraging you to think about how you would integrate the tools that are most relevant into your work.

Questions & next steps...

- Please CLICK below to register to attend an introductory session about TOEP.
  - **North Campus**
    - **Date and Time:** Fri 11/2/2012 1:00:00 PM
    - **Duration:** 1 hrs.
    - **Location:** 212 Capen Hall, North Campus
      http://ubtlc.buffalo.edu/workshops/workshop.asp?EventID=1764

  - **South Campus**
    - **Date and Time:** Wed 11/7/2012 10:00:00 AM
    - **Duration:** 1 hrs.
    - **Location:** 112 Wende Hall, South Campus
      http://ubtlc.buffalo.edu/workshops/workshop.asp?EventID=1765
- Keep an eye out for more details as they become available.
- Do you have questions? Contact the TOEP Team.

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Recruitment Announcement 2
Projected use/timeline: Circulate a few weeks before a planned recruitment workshop.

Are you interested in experiencing Web 2.0 tools that you can use in your teaching? Attend this session to get acquainted with a discovery learning approach for exploring tools that are both "way cool" and functional. **This is not an online course**, but instead gives you access to some mighty cool resources to explore on your own.

Why attend? This session will give you all you need to know, to decide if you want to embark

on an online "venture" through *TOEP (Tools of Engagement Project).* You'll get a glimpse of the learning venue, and have a chance to sign up.

- Please CLICK below to register to attend an introductory session about TOEP.

  North Campus
  - **Date and Time:** Fri 11/2/2012 1:00:00 PM
  - **Duration:** 1 hrs.
  - **Location:** 212 Capen Hall, North Campus
    http://ubtlc.buffalo.edu/workshops/workshop.asp?EventID=1764

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    http://ubtlc.buffalo.edu/workshops/workshop.asp?EventID=1765

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Recruitment Announcement 3
Projected use/timeline: Circulate in late October/November before launch.

Have you heard about "cool" and functional web-based tools that may increase student engagement? Are you interested in experiencing Web 2.0 tools that you can use in your teaching?

Consider joining us in the *Tools of Engagement Project (TOEP).* It's an on-demand professional development program that aids instructors in exploring free online Web 2.0 tools. The big idea is to give faculty focused resources to help both learn and integrate these tools into their own practice. **This is not an online course**, but instead gives you access to some mighty cool resources to explore on your own.

Registration...
Registration involves completing a simple online form.

Once you register...
From November through April 5th, you will have access to a project website that guides you through online learning experiences with current web-based tools. This is not a structured online course! There is no specific time commitment per day or week, and no required workshop or other session attendance. All resources are readily available online. We expect that the average participant will spend a few hours per week, exploring resources and trying out tools.

Who should participate...
Think about joining us if you are:

- New faculty (full-time or part-time, tenure-track, term, or adjunct appointments)
- Faculty who are new to or interested in online and/or hybrid instruction
- Faculty interested in incorporating current web-based tools into your courses and/or student assignments
- Faculty whose job involves working with preservice educators

FAQs...

- ### *Must I complete everything?*
  The project experiences are set up in easily-done shorter steps. We encourage participants to do a little at a time, and try it all. If you finish, you will be eligible for a prize. Each campus will hold a drawing among completers, awarding tablet devices and several iTunes cards. All activities must be completed no later than April 5th, 2013. Only faculty at participating TOEP SUNY campuses are eligible to be entered into the drawing for incentives.

- ### *To fully participate, besides exploring the resources, what must I do?*
  At the beginning of your work, you will start your own Blog, with our help (in three easy steps). Publishing updates to it about your experiences with the tools will be how you document what you have done. There is NOT an obligation to use these tools in your teaching and practice; however, we are unabashedly encouraging you to think about how you would integrate the tools that are most relevant into your work while we give you examples of how to do it.

Questions & next steps...
- Please CLICK below to register to attend an introductory session about TOEP.

  [Workshop dates & links to register were inserted here.]

  Do you have questions? [Contact the TOEP Team](#).