

CTL CONNECTS



Issue 2 - Winter 2023

It's week 10!

We're over halfway through this semester's journey. What a fantastic time to consider how the journey unfurls for the rest of the semester.

One way to do this is to reconnect with students and reengage them for the journey. Anna Conway, EdD shares some ideas in her Faculty Focus article, "[Recovering Student Engagement at Mid-course time.](#)"

Additionally, we need to prioritize our well-being. Adam Grant notes that,



Adam Grant 
@AdamMGrant

In toxic cultures, you have to burn out to earn a break.
Time off is how you recover.

In decent cultures, you take a break when you're low on gas.
Time off is how you refuel.

In healthy cultures, you're expected to take regular breaks.
Time off is encouraged to sustain energy.

It is important for us to consider the culture we are working in, and also the culture our students are learning in as we move along our teaching and learning journey and follow our pathways!

Connect with CTL to help!

CTL Super Seven

Our top 7 reasons why journeys and pathways matter:

1. Because our students have asked for learning to be accessible for all, and our pathways help students in many diverse learning situations and circumstances to access our courses.
2. Because education is dynamic and fluid, and as difficult as change is, it's an inevitable and important part of both our teaching, and our learning.
3. Because faculty deserve robust (and compensated!) training to support the transition to new teaching modalities (way to go, Georgian!).
4. Because journeys are fun. You get to plan, do, and share memories for years after.
5. Because learning is a journey.
6. Because coming to a stop means not learning from the past (??).
7. Because LIFE IS A JOURNEY so let's keep on rolling along!

Jargon Journey @ Georgian

Are you acrimonious about acronyms?

Do acronyms confound your Georgian journey?

Let us help you out!

- CTL – Centre for Teaching and Learning
- FOTC – Focus on Teaching Conference (read below for more info)



[Source](#)

- BB – Blackboard (not the kind you write on)
- OCDP – Online Course Development Program (Pathway program)
- FlexCDP – Flex Course Development Program (Pathway program)
- THT – Transitioning to Hybrid Teaching (Pathway program)
- T@G – Teaching at Georgian Orientation

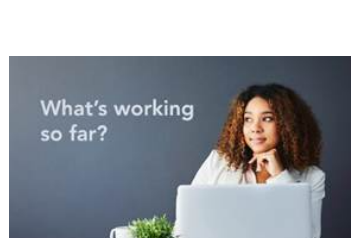
Want to learn more acronyms? Check out the full list [here](#).

Want more information about any of these acronyms? Connect with our CTL team to ask.

Teaching Hack

Think Metacognitively

Metacognitive thinking is thinking about thinking and learning. It's good for students and it's good for us!



At this point in the semester, ask yourself,

"What's working so far?"

"What isn't as smooth/helpful as you expected?"

"How can the student experience be improved (we can ask our students!), and how can your teaching experience be improved (we can ask ourselves how we can find joy in what we do?)"

These questions can help us think about our thinking and our learning environments.

Want more information? Visit Vanderbilt Center for Teaching and learn about "Thinking about One's Thinking" and "Putting Metacognition into Practice."

Chick, N. (2013). Metacognition. Vanderbilt University Center for Teaching. Retrieved March 13, 2023, from [source](#).

FOTC 2023

Planning is underway for the 2023 Focus on Teaching Conference on May 3 and 4! And what a perfect theme, "**Better Together!**" Opportunities for in-person and online participation will be available.

Now, more than ever, we want to recognize all the ways members of our Georgian community work together, create and share knowledge, and connect learning. Everyone is invited to join us in sharing innovative ideas and developing new passions that re-invigorate our teaching practice and our lives.

No idea or passion is too small – every little success is important.

We're excited to support and inspire our community of educators!

The conference will open with our keynote speaker Michelle Hillier, of [Breath & Fire](#). Her talk will focus on "Find your Breath. Ignite your Fire."

The call for proposals is now open!

The deadline for submissions is April 7 at 4 p.m.

[Click here for the Proposal Submission form](#)

Follow us on Twitter FOTC 2023 on [Twitter](#).



Competency Framework Updates

The TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD recognizes innovative and creative ideas developed and implemented by our inspirational educators at Georgian College.

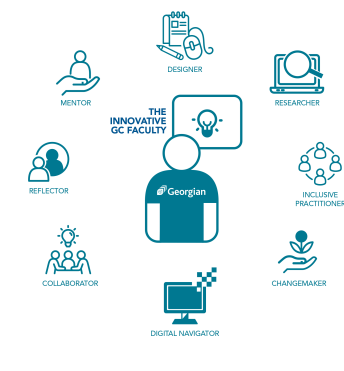
The award celebrates Georgian peers, or teams, who:

- Demonstrate a commitment to excellence in their teaching practice and in facilitating student learning; or supporting teachers and teaching excellence; and
- Inspire the larger teaching and learning community at Georgian College through sharing of practice, mentoring, or otherwise providing support to

colleagues.

Consider the Teaching Competency Framework of:

- Designer
- Researcher
- Inclusive practitioner
- Changemaker
- Digital navigator
- Collaborator
- Reflector
- Mentor



Nomination Form

Nominations are due by April 12, 2023, at 4 p.m.

Visit [Focus on Teaching Conference - Georgian College](#) for criteria, eligibility, and a list of past award winners.

CTL Team Updates

Blackboard Team



The BB Team in Super!

More than 500 faculty members have now been trained in how to use Blackboard Ultra and migrate courses!

We are now launching Cohort B 2.0. Are you a FT/NFT faculty who missed their Cohort A or B training windows? If so, please connect with your academic area and request the link to the 2.0 registration form.

Thank you to those who attended our Bb Ultra Booster sessions over reading week – they were a BLAST!

Missed them? No worries. Each session was recorded and posted within the Bb Ultra Training course.

The Bb Support Team continues to offer 8 hours of virtual Bb Ultra Drop-in Support Sessions, Monday through Friday at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

[Join Us](#)

Faculty Developer Team

Have you heard about ChatGPT or artificial intelligence tools becoming widely available?

Want to know more? Visit [CTL's Academic Integrity page on Artificial Intelligence-Assisted Work](#). We are starting the conversation and listening to what faculty are concerned about. Lots of current resources are available to read and watch covering various thoughts and opinions on ChatGPT.

Upcoming opportunities:

- What? So What? Now What? ChatGPT
- Keys to Teaching and Learning Series
- Teaching with Tools
- Teaching@Georgian – Community of Practice
- Flourishing Folks@Georgian



Check out all our CTL offerings on our [CTL website](#).

Have you heard about the Flourishing Folks @ Georgian series?

This series is meant to help you prioritize your health, consider your mental, emotional, physical and social / spiritual well-being and take time for yourself. Make being well part of your journey.



Watch Staff News for updates and link to each new session every week. Visit our [Flourishing Folks @ Georgian MS Team](#) for information about the series.

Ed Tech Corner

Keep your learning journey on track with workshops and resources from your Faculty Ed Tech team! You can:

- Request your own ed tech workshop with [this form](#).
- Attend a workshop or drop-in session ([See the CTL workshop calendar](#))
- Check out the ed tech we support on our [learning technologies website](#)
- Questions? Email Corey and Bert at facultyedtech@georgiancollege.ca

Spotlight on Qwickly Course Tools

Meet Qwickly Course Tools! The Qwickly Course Tools are found in your Blackboard course tools.



The Qwickly tool can:

- Analyze all the links in your courses and provide you with a list of broken links
- Open the availability of all your courses in one spot
- Change all the due dates of your assignments in one spot
- Share an announcement with all your courses at once

To learn more about saving time and energy with the Qwickly Course Tools, you can:

- Request a Qwickly workshop [using this form](#).
- Check out the [Qwickly Course Tools user guide](#)
- Watch this [Qwickly Course Tools webinar](#)
- Connect with Corey and Bert at facultyedtech@georgiancollege.ca

Instructional Design Team

Are you hearing about all the different ways teaching and learning can happen; the different pathways your teaching can take?

YOU'VE GOT OPTIONS

WHERE	WHEN	HOW
Online 	Asynchronous 	Classroom Technology 
+ / or	+ / or	+ / or
Classroom 	Synchronous 	Mobile Technology 

At Georgian we support the following modalities:

- In-class
- Online
- GC Flex
- Hybrid
- DualSync

In this quick article we will compare Online, Hybrid and GC Flex teaching modalities.

Online learning, hybrid learning, and GC Flex learning are all models of education that have emerged in response to changing student and institutional needs. Online learning is delivered completely online, while hybrid learning combines online and in-person instruction, and GC Flex learning allows students to switch between online and in-person participation as needed.

Each of these modalities have their own benefits to students:

- **Online** provides the convenience of being able to participate in course activities from anywhere with an internet connection.
- **Hybrid** can provide students with the best of both worlds, offering the convenience of online learning and the interaction of in-person instruction.
- **GC Flex** learning offers maximum flexibility, allowing students to switch between online and in-person participation as needed. This can be beneficial for students who prefer a highly flexible learning environment, and it allows institutions to provide quality education to a wider range of students.

At CTL we have developed Pathways for each of these modalities. Check out the [CTL Pathways Overview](#) and the [Georgian College Vice President Academic SharePoint Site](#) for more information on Pathways and the available modalities at Georgian College.

Multimedia

Have you seen the FOTC logo and promo videos?



We used [Canva](#) and [Motion Array](#) to create them!

Looking for fun ways to incorporate sounds and visuals in your presentations for your students?



Why NOT try one of these programs, they're both FREE!

Have any questions about free creative software that you can use? [Connect with us](#).

VR/XR

We had fun at our Photogrammetry workshop during the winter semester where folks turned dozens of photos into 3D objects. It even worked with a smartphone!



Is this something you're interested in trying out?

Visit these sites to get started scanning your own 3D models:

- ScanAmaze = Free scanner
- Sketchfab = Free repository for models
- PolyCam = Paid scanner with 14-day trial

All work as iOS and Android mobile apps or as a browser on your desktop.

Have any questions? Contact Rob: rob.theriault@georgiancollege.ca

Professional Learning Opportunities

- Faculty Learning Communities – think book club! Join peers and CTL team members to explore readings related to our fav subject; teaching! The offerings occur in person, or asynchronously.
- Communities of Practice – join with peers and discuss, share resources, even commiserate about contemporary teaching and learning topics.
- Workshops and sessions – we offer a multitude of workshops!
- Pathways for design sprints that help you build a course from start to finish for online, hybrid and flex course deliveries.
- Coaching and mentoring.

Check out all our CTL offerings on the [CTL website](#).

Get Involved

Interested in sharing ideas for CTL Connects? We'd love to hear your thoughts.

Please email tracy.mitchell-ashley@georgiancollege.ca

Contact Us

Guess what. There are four ways to connect with us:

Blackboard Ultra

For general questions about Blackboard Ultra:

facultybbsupport@georgiancollege.ca

Faculty Development

For questions for our faculty development team: facultydevelopment@georgiancollege.ca

Learning Technologies

For questions about learning technologies outside of Blackboard:

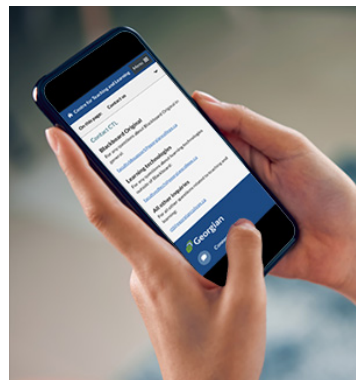
facultyedtech@georgiancollege.ca

All other inquiries

For all other questions related to teaching and learning:

ctl@georgiancollege.ca

Or visit us on our [website](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#), or [X \(Twitter\)](#).



Connect with us!



GeorgianCollege.ca/CTL
CTL@georgiancollege.ca

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