

Learning and Teaching Developments

Quarterly updates from the Learning and Teaching Academy and Educational Development Unit

LTA/EDU 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS A YEAR OF CELEBRATION!

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Open Education Policy: Welcomed and approved by QAEC!

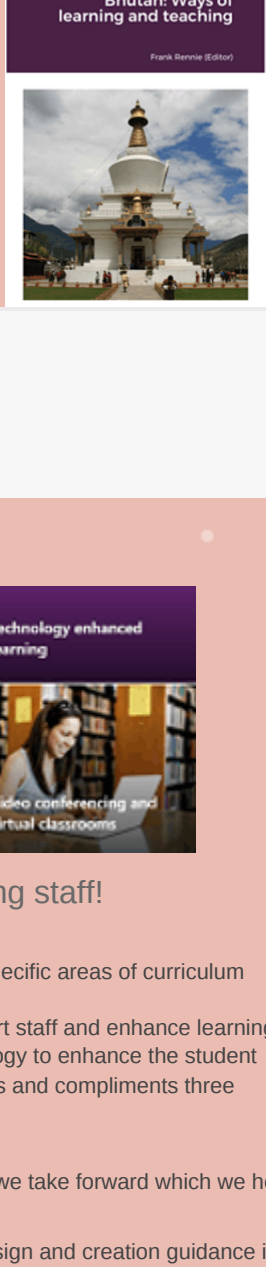
It's been a long road, but the university **Open Educational Resources (OER) Policy** was welcomed and approved by QAEC and is ready to get to work underpinning much of the open practice in the **Framework for the Development of Open Educational Practices and the Learning and Teaching Enhancement Strategy**. The Framework is currently undergoing a revision so you can expect more on that in 2022.

It's generally been a busy and successful year in open education with lots of groundwork done and ready to support open educational practice across the university. We have signed up to an **Open Monograph Press (OMP) Service**, hosted by the University of Edinburgh and published our first Open eBook (see No.2). The use cases for OMP are many and you can expect to hear more about it in 2022. We are also in the process of transferring the **Journal of Perspectives in Applied Academic Practice (JPAAP)** over to our new Open Journal Service (OJS), also hosted by the University of Edinburgh.

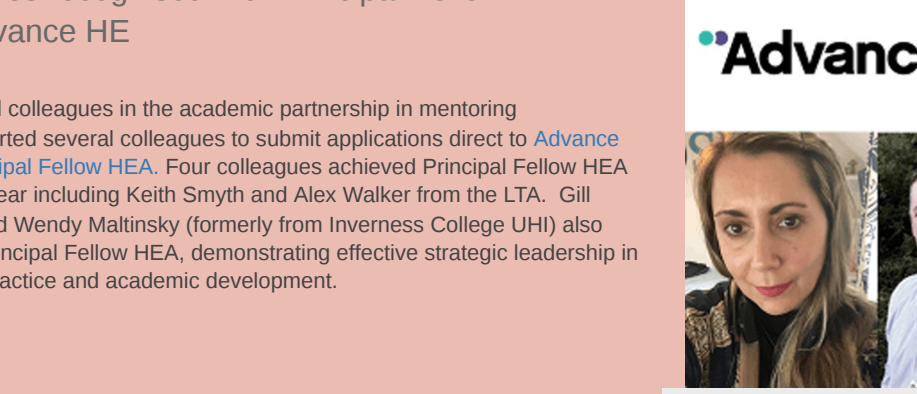
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UHI publications and author celebrations!

Semester one saw the publication of three books that are available to download and in print, and were supported through the editing and publication process by the EDU and LTA, as well as colleagues from across the partnership who provided feedback and guidance to authors as mentors. The first book which was edited by Frank Rennie **Bhutan: Ways of learning and teaching**, is the compilation of action research projects that colleagues at the Royal University of Bhutan carried out as part of the Global Fund Research Project CHORTENS. The aforementioned OMP service was launched with the book **Gender equality and representation within and beyond the University of the Highlands and Islands** with chapters authored by colleagues across the academic partnership and edited by the LTA's Alex Walker. The book sets out to explore themes, issues and challenges around gender equality that were presented at the 2021 International Women's Day university event. The final book **How to supervise (and be supervised on) a research degree: Tips and tools for supervisors and students** by Frank Rennie and Michael Rayner was published just this month and is a guide to the process of supervising research students. Well done to all the authors who published this year and many thanks to colleagues who supported the publications!



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EDU support pathways launched for all learning and teaching staff!

The EDU launched a new SharePoint site including **support pathways** to help staff in specific areas of curriculum development. These resources have been developed by the Educational Development Unit to support staff and enhance learning and teaching practice. There's a particular focus on skills relating to the use of technology to enhance the student experience. The resource has already had positive feedback from university colleagues and compliments three existing learning and teaching portals that provide support for staff and students.

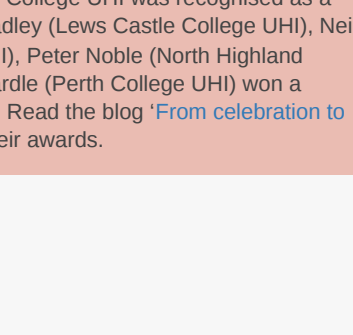
- **EDU Showcase**: offers a sample of the range of support and exciting projects we take forward which we hope will inspire staff with new ideas for enhancing their courses.
- **Staff Support Portal** displays Brightspace guidance resources and learning design and creation guidance in a 'one stop' quick reference area.
- **Essential Student Skills** award winning site! Supports new and continuing students has an eye-catching new look.

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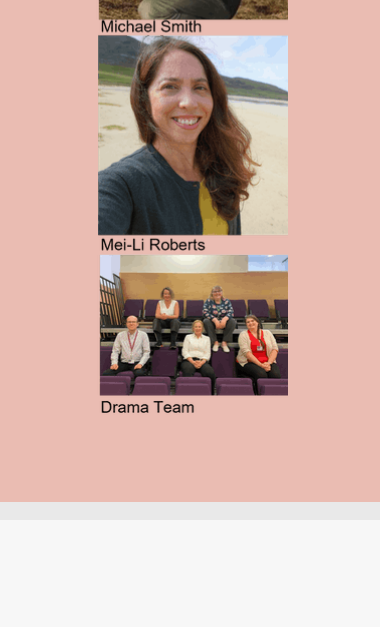
Colleagues recognised with Principal Fellow HEA from Advance HE



The LTA and colleagues in the academic partnership in mentoring roles, supported several colleagues to submit applications direct to **Advance HE for Principal Fellow HEA**. Four colleagues achieved Principal Fellow HEA status this year including Keith Smyth and Alex Walker from the LTA. Gill Berkeley and Wendy Maltinsky (formerly from Inverness College UHI) also achieved Principal Fellow HEA, demonstrating effective strategic leadership in academic practice and academic development.



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Celebrating Advance HE HEA Fellowships

A number of colleagues were recognised with HEA Fellowships from Advance HE over the last year, demonstrating how their practice aligns to the **UK Professional Standards Framework**, a sector benchmark for good practice in learning and teaching, support, and leadership in higher education. Congratulations to the following colleagues:

Associate Fellow HEA
Iain Eisner, Executive Office UHI
Jolene Young, Moray College UHI
Lucie Novoveska, Scottish Association of Marine Science UHI
Maya Darrell Hewins, Centre for Island Creativity/Shetland College UHI
Ronie Walters, Executive Office UHI

Fellow HEA
Alex Kershaw, Perth College UHI
Alex Harrison, Inverness College UHI
Christin Fabian, Perth College UHI
Fiona McConnell, Inverness College UHI
Hayley Barnett, Perth College UHI
Heidi Shingler, West Highland College UHI
Hereward Proops, Lews Castle College UHI
Jodie Salmon, Moray College UHI
Kyla Steele, Argyll College UHI
Laura Hobbs, Scottish Association of Marine Science UHI
Rhona Morrison, Inverness College UHI
Sheena Fraser, Inverness College UHI
Sinead Brydon, Inverness College UHI
Stephen Gertsen, Moray College UHI
Steven Reid, Perth College UHI
Tracy Kennedy, Inverness College UHI

Senior Fellow HEA
Allane Hay, Moray College UHI
Fiona Gunn, Inverness College UHI
Graham Wilson, Moray College UHI
Jean Ward, Orkney College UHI
Kathleen Connor, Perth College UHI
Michelle Beattie, Executive Office UHI
Scott Connor, Executive Office UHI
Scott Timpany, Orkney College UHI
Shari Kane, Perth College UHI
Simon Bradley, Lews Castle College UHI
Stephanie Holden, Perth College UHI
Susannah Wilson, Argyll College UHI
Wendy Jessiman, Department of Nursing and Midwifery

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The National Teaching Fellowship Scheme (NTFS) and the Collaborative Awards for Teaching Excellence (CATE): Celebrating UHI success!

In 2021 the LTA coordinated the university support for colleagues to put forward applications for The National Teaching Fellowship Scheme (NTFS) and the Collaborative Awards for Teaching Excellence (CATE) award managed by Advance HE. Lois Gray, Academic Lead Developer (Engineering), North Highland College UHI was recognised as a National Teaching Fellow, and that the Applied Music Team comprising Simon Bradley (Lews Castle College UHI), Neil Davidson (Lews Castle College UHI), Miriam Iorwerth (West Highland College UHI), Peter Noble (North Highland College UHI) Anna-Wendy Stevenson (Lews Castle College UHI) and Andrew Wardle (Perth College UHI) won a CATE. UHI was the only university in Scotland to win an award in both categories! Read the blog **'From celebration to collaboration'** to read what the university winners have been up to since winner their awards.

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Celebrating the nominees for the NTFS and CATE 2022 awards

Three colleagues and one team have been selected through an internal selection panel to submit applications for the Advance HE teaching excellence awards in 2022. The nominees submitted proposals that evidenced excellence in their learning and teaching practice that demonstrates reach, value and impact against the application criteria. A big congratulations to:

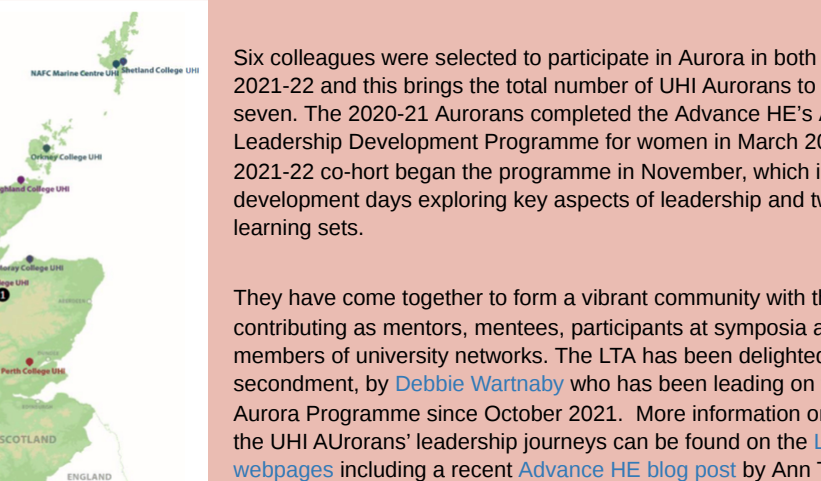
- Dr Michael Smith, Programme Leader MSc Sustainable Rural Development Head of Humanities Department, Lews Castle College UHI
- Dr Leah Macaden, Senior Lecturer in Nursing and Lead for Internationalisation, Department of Nursing UHI
- Dr Mei-Li Roberts, Programme Leader BA (Hons) Child and Youth Studies, Perth College UHI

The nominee for CATE is:

- Drama Team, led by Dr Lesley Mickel, Programme Leader, Inverness College UHI

Good luck to the UHI Nominees! More information can be found on the [NTFS/CATE webpages](#).

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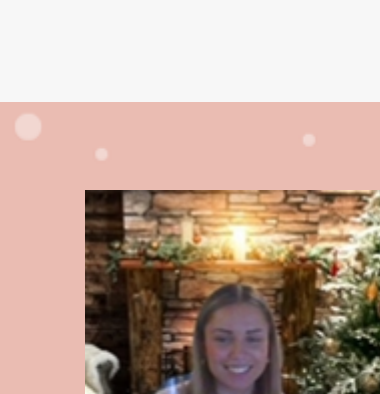


University achieves first Education submission for REF

Supported through the LTA, colleagues from across various of the Academic Partners and Executive Office collaborated on the university's first educational research submission for the Research Excellence Framework (REF), which was part of the university's overall REF submission in March 2021. The education submission was overseen by Keith Smyth of the LTA and involved the submission of educational research outputs in areas including digital education, critical education theory, student transitions, and teacher education, and the submitting of two impact case studies and an environment statement both relating to the strategic development and impact of educational research initiatives. Eleven members of staff were included as submitting authors, although more importantly our work for the REF2021 education submission has increased engagement in educational research across the university. Results will be received in Spring 2022.

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Celebrating the UHI Aurorans



Six colleagues were selected to participate in Aurorans in both 2020/21 and 2021-22 and this brings the total number of UHI Aurorans to twenty-seven. The 2020-21 Aurorans completed the Advance HE's Aurora Leadership Development Programme for women in March 2021, and the 2021-22 co-host began the programme in November, which includes four development days exploring key aspects of leadership and two action learning sets.

They have come together to form a vibrant community with the university, contributing as mentors, mentees, participants at symposia and events and as members of university networks. The LTA has been delighted to be joined, on secondment, by **Debbie Wartnaby** who has been leading on the Aurora Programme since October 2021. More information on the UHI Aurorans' leadership journeys can be found on the **LTA Aurora webpages** including a recent **Advance HE blog post** by Ann Tilbury sharing her thoughts on leadership development through collaborative learning.

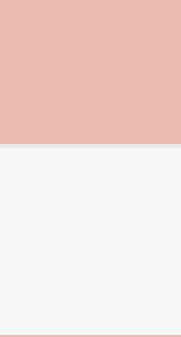
The six successful participants for 2020/21 are:
Eilidh Macphail, Programme Leader & Lecturer, BSc Sustainable Development, Lews Castle College, UHI
Elizabeth McHugh, Electronic Resources Manager, Executive Office
Helen Aird, Marketing and PR Officer, Inverness College, UHI
Rosie Blake, Lecturer and Site Leader, BA (Hons) Fine Art, Lews Castle College, UHI
Sharon Rankin, Faculty Officer, Executive Office, UHI
Tracy Kerr, Head of Quality & Registry, West Highland College, UHI

The six successful participants for 2021/22 are:
Audrey Decou, Curriculum Development Employer Engagement Officer Executive Office, UHI
Mandy Haggith, Lecturer, Literature and Creative Writing, Inverness College, UHI
Denise Maclean Ferguson, MIS Manager, Executive Office, UHI
Lindsay Moodie, Change Implementation Manager, Executive Office, UHI
Beth Mouat, Island Strategy Director (EO) Joint Head of Marine Science & Technology (Shetland UHI), Executive Office, UHI
Marie Porter, Physical Oceanographer, Scottish Association for Marine Science, UHI

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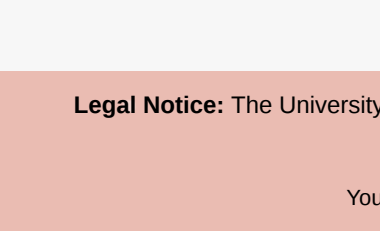
Debbie Wartnaby joins the LTA and Ann Tilbury supports the ongoing EO restructuring process

The LTA were delighted to welcome Debbie Wartnaby to the team in the role of Organisational Learning and Development Coordinator. Debbie is well known across the university through her role as Faculty Officer for Arts, Humanities and Business, and the Humanities, Education and Gaelic Subject Network. Debbie has joined the LTA on part-time secondment until the end of January 2021, due to Ann Tilbury joining the Organisational Development Team to support the ongoing EO restructuring process on a part-time temporary basis.



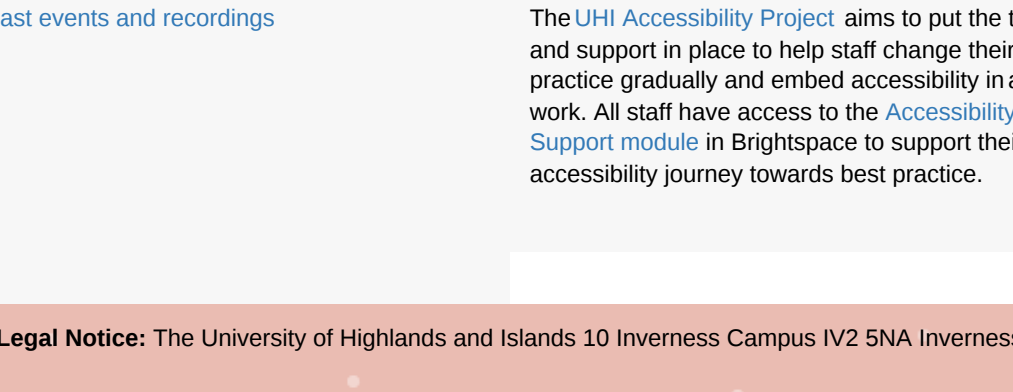
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Carolin has a baby!



Carolin Radtke from the EDU welcomed a new addition to her family, Alasdair, on Monday 25 October 2021. Congratulations both!

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Celebrating the year with the LTA Christmas party!

As the calendar year draws to a close, the LTA held their Christmas night out, except in. Plenty of digitally distanced laughs, and festive Blockbusters with quizmaster Scott Connor! A fitting end to a busy year.

Spotlight on our ongoing work and activities!

Events

LTA and EDU Events
The LTA and EDU have run a number of events, workshop, conferences and symposia to support the enhancement of practice and share the great work of colleagues at and beyond UHI over this year. You can access the resources and recordings below:

- [LTA past events and recordings](#)
- [EDU past events and recordings](#)

Activities and resources

Learning Analytics
The Learning Analytics Steering Group has identified a range of workstreams, the first of which will come onstream at the start of Semester 2. A new communications site is currently under development, and you can expect to hear a lot more about this at the start of the new year!

Accessibility finds an Ally
The **UHI Accessibility Project** aims to put the tools and support in place to help staff change their practice gradually and embed accessibility in all their work. All staff have access to the **Accessibility Support module** in Brightspace to support their accessibility journey towards best practice.