

# UDL: It's Time to Talk About the 'Why'?

Croke Park (Dublin), March 13th & 14th 2017

Welcome! This Universal Design for Learning (UDL) conference, will explore why UDL is for you. If you, as an educator or support staff member, are working with a very diverse student population, then how do you understand their requirements and respond to them in your practice? You have to anticipate the unique learning needs of millennial students, who are tech savvy and have expectations of successful careers in a changing world.

This 2 day event will feature over 60 contributions from across Europe and beyond. We hope that you will leave this conference with fresh impetus, inspiration and intent to promote UDL on your campus and to collaborate to create a better learning environment for all students.

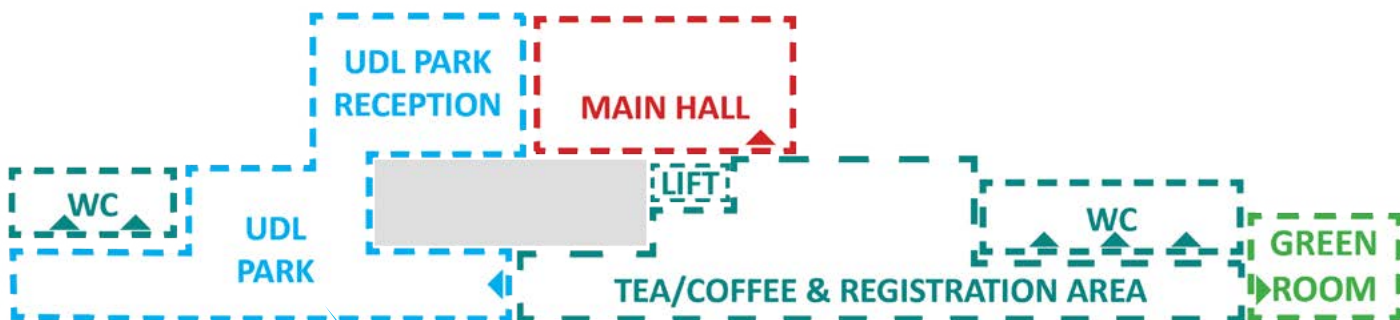


## WIFI

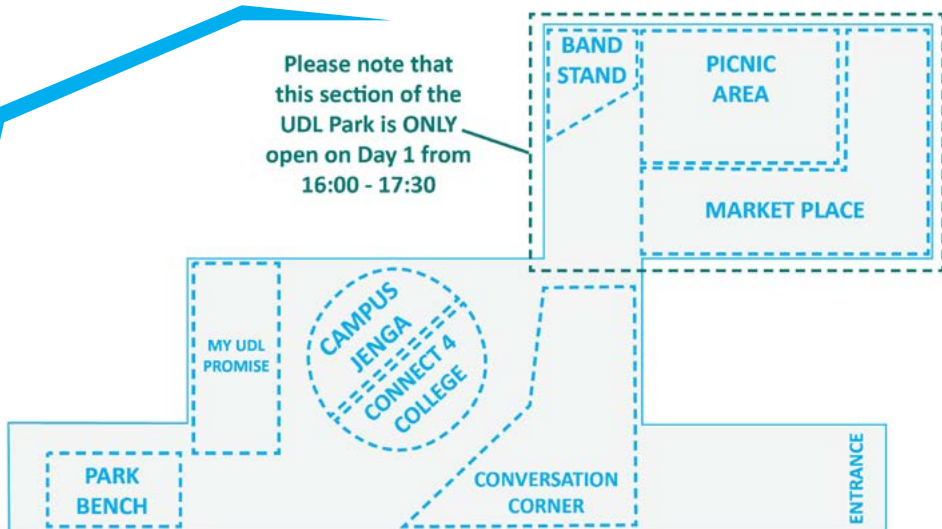
Free WIFI available - open network, no password required.



## Conference Map



## UDL Park - Enlarged Map



# UDL PARK

Starting at 11:30 on Day 1 of the conference (Mar 13th), we open the UDL Park. The UDL Park runs parallel to the Main Hall and the Green Room and offers participants a chance to step out and experience a change of pace. The UDL Park aims to give participants a chance to engage in a more informal setting through a series of games and small scale conversations about big ideas.

Later on Day 1, take the opportunity to take some time out, wind down and have some fun at the UDL Park Reception when the Bandstand, Picnic Area and Marketplace open. Here, the space is given over to showcasing existing UDL projects and practices so you get the chance to meet with project leaders, chat with other Park visitors in an informal setting over refreshments, music and picnic food.

The idea of the Park is to encourage engagement, interaction and reflection and we believe that these actions should be rewarded, so we've introduced the **UDL Park Reward** system. Every time you compete in a game in the Playground, take part in a discussion in our Conversation Corner or engage your artistic side in the Park Bench area, you will receive a UDL Park Reward – a ticket to the BIG raffle at the close of Day 2. The lucky raffle winner will receive two tickets to the AHEAD Conference 2018 and a beautiful eBook Reader - a great travel companion. When you receive a reward, just write your name on the back of it and drop it in the Raffle Box in the Park. The more you engage, the better the chance you have of winning!



## Meet the Park Warden!

Our UDL Park Warden Chris Chapman is a leading host of conversations that matter. He is the founder of The Change Exploratory, which supports leaders through coaching and mentoring and also in the design and facilitation of great events and transformative change processes. As Park Warden, Chris' role is to interact with the Park visitors, stimulate engagement and capture the themes and ideas arising from all of the activities in the Park.



## The Playground (open throughout)

### Campus Jenga

Every campus is a connected web of people, departments and ideas – or building blocks. Rather than different groups working in silos, as often happens in big institutions, to make universal design for learning work for all students, a robust cross campus approach is essential. As you remove blocks in the game and the structure weakens, think about how you can bring the different building blocks of your college closer together to promote UDL and a better learning experience for all. How can you identify champions in other departments and collaborate effectively? When you're finished playing, write your ideas on a post it and stick it up. The loser's forfeit (or both if it's a stalemate) is to make a public commitment to improve the experience in their college by making a UDL promise (see below). Each participant will receive a UDL Park Reward for our big raffle on Day 2 so find another player and give it a go!



## Connect 4 College

Its giant Connect 4, but with a twist. It takes 4 key stakeholders - students, academics, student services staff and management - to work together to make a universally designed learning experience. As you try to connect 4 of your counters together in a line, reflect on how you can connect these key stakeholder groups on your campus to promote Universal Design for Learning and when you are finished playing, write your ideas on a post it and stick them up! The loser's forfeit (or both if it's a stalemate) is to make a public commitment to improve the experience in their college by making a UDL promise (see below). Each participant will receive a UDL Park Reward for our big raffle on Day 2 so find another player and give it a go!

### #myUDLpromise – share your commitment

Scribble your short UDL Promise on the whiteboard, and hold it up for the world to see. Our staff will snap you and send it out on the @aheadireland account using the #myUDLpromise hashtag. Every participant gets a UDL Park Reward for our big raffle on Day 2.



## The Park Bench Reflection Area (open throughout)

Take a quiet moment away from the hum drum of the conference to reflect and take in the voices of real student struggles and dreams by sitting on the park bench and experiencing the Connected Voices in Learning exhibition created for last year's AHEAD Conference. Listen to the powerful group poem created by students about their higher education experience and reflect on your own experience as a staff member. View the accompanying student art and if you feel like it, draw a sketch of your own experience of working in higher education with the markers provided and put it up on the wall. If you contribute a sketch, you will receive a UDL Park Reward for our big raffle on Day 2.

## Conversation Corner (scheduled throughout)

Participants have volunteered to host scheduled small scale conversations that matter to them – max 7 people per conversation. These scheduled conversations will take place parallel to the main conference programme. Participants will receive a UDL Park Reward for every conversation they partake in. See the full



Conversation Corner schedule on the back page of this programme. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE CONVERSATIONS REQUIRE ADVANCE BOOKING. TO SEE IF ANY SPACES REMAIN IN THE CONVERSATION CORNER, VISIT THE PARK WARDEN.**

## The UDL Park Reception (open Day 1 only, 16:00-17:30)

### The Market Place (open Day 1, 16:00-17:30)

Professionals interested in UDL have set their 'stall' out to showcase their innovative projects and practices including app demonstrations, elearning modules and more. Can they 'sell' you their ideas and contributions to the UDL campus? What ideas can you bring away with you to incorporate into your practice?

### The Picnic Area (open Day 1, 16:00-17:30)

Grab a refreshment and some good ol' fish and chips and go chat with your fellow Park visitors in the picnic area about what you've seen and heard at the conference. What's inspired you? What ideas will you take away and incorporate into your practice? Share your thoughts with your colleagues and don't be afraid to let the world know your plan via twitter using the #MyUDLPromise hashtag (see playground).

### The BandStand (open Day 1, 16:00-17:30)

Every good park has a bandstand, and ours is no different. Check out some quality ambient blues guitar from one of Dublin's most talented street musicians, Niall Lawlor.

# Day 1 - March 13th

## Morning Session

09:00	<b>Registration Opens</b>	
10:00	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> Prof. Michael Shevlin (Chair of the Board of AHEAD)	
10:05	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Dr. Graham Love (CEO, Higher Education Authority)	
10:20	<b>UDL Implementation: It Takes a Village</b> Katie Novak (International UDL Expert)	
11:30	<b>Tea/Coffee Break - UDL Park Playground &amp; Park Bench Open for Visiting</b>	
	<b>Breakout Session 1 - Choose Your Path (no switching mid session please!)</b>	
	<b>Main Hall</b>	<b>Green Room</b>
12:00	<b>Creating a 'ripple effect' to embed inclusive practices</b> Paddy Turner (Sheffield Hallam University and NADP) Following a successful inclusive transformation of a single module that created a ripple effect of change, this presentation will reflect on how this model was reproduced on a larger scale. How can success be measured? Will early adopters really tip the balance?	<b>Engaging disabled students in strategic projects: two case studies from the Open University</b> Dr. Chetz Colwell, Kate Lister, Ruth McFarlane, Jitse van Ameijde (Open University UK) The Open University (UK) will present their approach to engaging disabled students in two related innovative projects: the development of an accessibility policy covering both teaching & learning and support; and an investigation of the language students use to speak about their disability which will inform University terminology.
12:30	<b>The role of the disability coordinator within the UDL framework</b> Carla Van Oost, Hanne Vrijssen (VIVES University College), Debbie Van Loo (AP University College), Meggie Verstichele (SIHO) Two university colleges in Belgium, represented by the disability-coordinators, discuss how the UDL framework is used within their higher education institution. They want to open discussions about how the disability coordinator can play its role as UDL ambassador within the higher education institution.	<b>Eye Opener - How teacher trainers can coach students during internships taking the diversity of students into account</b> Katrien Durinck, An Standaert (University College Ghent) The goal of the Eye Opener project was to support teacher trainers in adequately addressing the diversity of students during their internships. During one year, teacher trainers of different teacher training institutes participated in an inter vision group guided by two process managers. UDL was one of the inspiring frameworks.
13:00	<b>Lunch</b>	

— **Playground & Park Bench Open for Visiting (UDL PARK)** —

— **Conversation Corner (UDL PARK)** —

# Day 1 - March 13th

## Afternoon Session

14:00	<b>Launch of UDLL Guidelines</b> Kjetil Knarlag (Universell)	
14:15	<b>UDL: learning by doing - European examples of Universal Design for Learning</b> Judith Jansen (Expert centre handicap + studie), Elinor Olausen (Universell)	
14:50	<b>Move to Breakout</b>	
	<b>Breakout Session 2 - Choose Your Path (no switching mid session please!)</b>	
	<b>Main Hall</b>	<b>Green Room</b>
15:00	<b>Addressing the 'Why' of UDL within the Teaching for Understanding classroom</b> Dr. Marian McCarthy, Dr. Brian Butler (University College Cork)  Academic staff registered for the Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education at UCC use a Teaching for Understanding approach to research and document their teaching and their students' learning. This framework is a valuable catalyst for Universal Design for Learning approaches.	<b>The 2 Way Learning Street – How Mentoring Benefits All</b> Christel Berg (Lund University)  We apply the maxim “what is necessary for students with disabilities is of benefit to other students” to the concept of mentoring in higher education. Introducing the new agent of change: The chance for mentors to experience and learn from students with disabilities – the two way learning street.
15:30	<b>Embedding Universal Design: Partnerships for Success</b> Dr. Lisa Padden, Sue Meehan (University College Dublin)  UCD Access & Lifelong Learning have partnered with UCD Teaching & Learning with the aim to embed universal design and inclusivity in the teaching practice across the university. This presentation will outline the facets of the partnership and our current projects.	<b>The Deaf Student Voice: Experiences of Irish Sign Language Interpretation in Higher Education</b> Caroline McGrotty (AHEAD)  Key findings of recent empirical research which documented the experiences of Deaf students who use Irish Sign Language as their primary language, focusing in particular on how they interacted and worked with interpreters in higher education settings.
16:00	<b>UDL PARK RECEPTION</b>  <b>Marketplace, Bandstand and Picnic area open for afternoon reception</b>	
17:30	<b>Day 1 Closes</b>	

Playground & Park Bench Open for Visiting (UDL PARK)

Conversation Corner (UDL PARK)

# Day 2 - March 14th

## Morning Session

09:30	<b>Day 2 Registration Opens</b>
10:00	<b>Conference Reopens</b> - Ann Heelan (Executive Director, AHEAD)
10:05	<b>Students as Partners in Assessment and Feedback: A Sectoral Approach to Change</b> Dr. Geraldine O'Neill (Associate Professor, National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning)
10:35	<b>Doing what we preach: examining the contradictions of the UDL discourse in faculties of education</b> Frederic Fovet (University of Prince Edward Island)
11:05	<b>UDL and Reasonable Accommodations – the systemic changes required in Higher Education in Ireland</b> Julie Tonge (UCD Access & Lifelong Learning), Declan Treanor (Trinity College Dublin)
11:35	<b>Coffee Break</b>

### Breakout Session 3 - Choose Your Path (no switching mid session please!)

	Main Hall	Green Room
12:00	<p><b>Mental Health Matters: How UDL practices benefit students with mental health difficulties in higher education</b></p> <p>Dr. Esther Murphy (Research Fellow, Trinity College Dublin)</p> <p>This presentation draws on findings from recent research by AHEAD and NLN. The focus will be to share the positive outcomes experienced by students with mental health difficulties when UDL principles of multiple representation, expression and action and engagement are embraced by HEIs.</p>	<p><b>A student's integrated apps journey: accessibility for the road ahead</b></p> <p>Jamie Crabb, Adam Hyland (Diversity and Ability (DnA))</p> <p>The workshop will illuminate how different apps lend themselves to different stages of a learner's journey drawing on a student case study. We illustrate how integrating strategies and apps can enable a user-led integration forming a holistic and meta-cognitive workflow.</p>
12:30	<p><b>A review of transition supports for all first year students on a third level campus within a UD Framework</b></p> <p>Suzanne McCarthy, Naoise Webb (National Learning Network)</p> <p>An exploratory study of first year student supports that adopt Universal Design principles. This presentation will provide a summary of the data gathered from a learning profiler programme with first year ITB students. It will also provide a brief analysis of demographic data of student engagement in the psychology-led academic support service at ITB.</p>	<p><b>Integration of Students with Asperger's Syndrome into the Student body</b></p> <p>Sylvia Mooney, Fionnuala Walsh (Dublin Institute of Technology)</p> <p>An Asperger's Social group in DIT, "The Thursday Club". Taking part in college is an anxious time for students but if you have in-adequate social awareness, then you may become isolated. One of the ways DIT DSS help students with AS integrate into college life is through 'The Thursday Club'.</p>

13:00 **Lunch**

Playground & Park Bench Open for Visiting (UDL PARK)

Conversation Corner (UDL PARK)

# Day 2 - March 14th

## Afternoon Session

### Breakout Session 4 - Choose Your Path (no switching mid session please!)

	Main Hall	Green Room
14:00	<p><b>An Inclusive Practice Toolkit for Academic Staff: The University of Brighton journey in creating a staff development resource to fit our needs</b></p> <p>Deborah Gibberd (University of Brighton)</p> <p>Developing a web-based Toolkit used for advancing Inclusive Practice designed for academics. An illustrated journey showing the need analysis, means, and range of content; how we applied IP ourselves; and how we created an engaging and effective web learning resource which has strategic management buy-in.</p>	<p><b>Developing the first UDL-based academic program in Israel – a case study</b></p> <p>Irma van Slooten, Linda Niewenhuijsen (UDL Nederland), Dr. Shira Yalon-Chamovitz (Ono Academic College)</p> <p>In this interactive presentation we share the insights of developing the first UDL-based academic program in Israel. We will deal with key elements in the administrative process (to get relevant actors on board), the training process (who, what and how) and initiatives to take the process to the next level (rolling out udl in all parts of the college).</p>
14:30	<p><b>Towards Firm Assessment Goals and Flexible Assessment means in higher vocational education</b></p> <p>Dr. Sander Hilberink, Dr. Mieke Cardol, Drs. Bertine van Hillo Visser (Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences)</p> <p>In The Netherlands UDL gradually makes its entrance into higher education. The question in higher education is how to apply UDL to assessment. This study identified problems concerning regular assessments. The alternative tests appeared to be in accordance with study objectives and learning objectives.</p>	<p><b>Equity in Practice on Paper</b></p> <p>Ciaran Bulman (WALK)</p> <p>The principle of UDL is allowing equitable means under which each student can participate inclusively in both higher and further education. But what does equity in education look like? This interactive workshop will challenge your idea of equal in the context of education and demonstrate why equality is essential to inclusive education.</p>
15:00	<b>Move to Main Hall</b>	
15:05	<b>Closing Session: Key conference themes explored - what next?</b> Katie Novak (International UDL Expert)	
15:40	<b>UDL Park Raffle</b>	
15:45	<b>Conference Closes</b>	

Playground & Park Bench Open for Visiting (UDL PARK)

Conversation Corner (UDL PARK)

**PREBOOKING ESSENTIAL - VISIT THE  
PARK WARDEN TO CHECK AVAILABILITY!**

## Conversation Corner - Day 1

When	Table A	Table B	Table C
12:00 Round 1	1A: How far is Ireland away from implementing UDL in High Education? - Hosted by Trevor Boland (Dublin Institute of Technology)	1B: Assessment overload: UD solutions - Hosted by Lisa Padden (University College Dublin)	1C: How can we be change agents for UDL – regardless of profession and regardless of policies? - Hosted by Pia Haeggblom (Kristianstad University)
12:30 Round 2	2A: Moving from policy to praxis: How can we mainstream a focus on inclusion for all? - Hosted by Dr. Sean Bracken (University of Worcester)	2B: How can we ensure collaborative practice on international mobility programmes? - Hosted by Lorraine Gallagher (AHEAD/ MappED!)	2C: Encouraging Inclusive Career Conversations in UDL - Hosted by Eileen Daly (National Learning Network)
15:00 Round 3	3A: How to get learners involved in peer assisted learning - Hosted by Hanora Hartnett (Limerick College of Further Education)	3B: How do we showcase UDL beyond Disability and impairment? - Hosted by Frederic Fovet (University of Prince Edward Island)	3C: Universal design from a disability perspective prevents real inclusion - Hosted by Paddy Turner (National Association of Disability Practitioners (NADP) & Sheffield Hallam University)
15:30 Round 4	4A: Clinic session: Securing greater accessibility in online and distance learning - Hosted by Kate Lister (The Open University)	4B: How do we translate UDL into clear guidelines for staff to follow? - Hosted by Jo Rushworth (De Montfort University)	4C: Sharing ideas on how to engage hard to reach academics with IP change - Hosted by Deborah Gibberd (University of Brighton)

## Conversation Corner - Day 2

When	Table A	Table B	Table C
12:00 Round 5	5A: Touch typing skills: Essential, nice to have or may be irrelevant in the future? - Hosted by Sharon Lyons (Sharon's Shortcuts)	5B: Into apprenticeships - Hosted by Barbara Waters (BLS Associates)	5C: How can we make UDL more meaningful? - Hosted by Ann Heelan (AHEAD)
12:30 Round 6	6A: How do we get faculty involved in UDL implementation - Hosted by Frederic Fovet (University of Prince Edward Island)	6B: How can we assess in UDL-friendly ways for larger cohorts? - Hosted by Louise Dunford (De Montfort University)	6C: Everyone has Mental Health - how can we embed a culture of wellbeing? - Hosted by Jamie Crabb (Diversity and Ability (DnA))
14:00 Round 7	7A: Engagement is attention and commitment - so what does that mean for us? - Hosted by Katie Novak (CAST)	7B: The benefits of an authentic end-user led approach- are we realising it's true potential? - Hosted by Adam Hyland (Diversity and Ability)	7C: Starting discussion groups for and by students with depressive symptoms - Hosted by Judith Jansen & Evelien Westerbeek (Handicap + studie)
14:30 Round 8	8A: UDL: All aboard or special train? - Hosted by Dr. Marian McCarthy (University College Cork)	8B: How might we make campuses reflect on the social model of disability? - Hosted by Frederic Fovet (University of Prince Edward Island)	8C: "Nothing About Us Without Us!" - enabling participation by embracing disabled and neurodiverse students use of disruptive technology - Hosted by Jamie Crabb (Diversity and Ability (DnA))