

InnovatEd Insights

The official newsletter of Humber's Innovative Learning Team



IN THIS ISSUE

[Faculty AI Forum](#)

[Instructional Skills Workshop](#)

[New HLO Modules Available](#)

[Micro-credentials Available](#)

[Faculty Focused Workshops](#)

[Digital Fluency Framework](#)

[Blackboard User Interface](#)

[Blackboard Evaluations](#)

[Showcase Feature - SPARK](#)

[Save the Date: Showcase](#)

Dean's Message



Welcome back to faculty, staff, and students. I am thrilled to present this InnovatEd Insights issue covering exciting initiatives within IL, reflecting on the Fall term, and looking ahead to the Winter term.

In this issue, we're looking back at our Faculty Forum on Generative AI, bringing over 150 participants across the institution and external to Humber to discuss AI and ethics, assessments, and the evolving impact of AI in higher education. We are pleased to re-introduce our Digital Fluency Framework to support the growth of digital skills among faculty and staff, as well as our new HLO modules which are aimed to foster career-ready graduates. Looking ahead, we are excited to announce our save the date for Showcase 2026!

Thank you to the Humber community for your continued support of our students and commitment to building brilliance in all that you do. The Innovative Learning team looks forward to continued collaboration with you this new year!

Nichole Molinaro
Interim Dean, Innovative Learning



Adapting Teaching & Learning During The Faculty AI Forum

Over fall reading week, Innovative Learning hosted the Faculty Forum on Generative AI. With over 150 participants across 3 sessions, participants had the opportunity to tackle topics related to teaching, learning, and assessment in relation to AI and higher education. A special thank you to our panelists, Akil Anna, Carrington Christmas, Kimberly Daniels, Jennie Miron, Carl Oliver, Lauren Riley, and Ahmed Sagarwala, for contributing their insights to the panel. Another special thank you to our faculty showcase presenters, Kia Sanei, Shannon Brown, Marta Wnuczko, Michael Spencer, Jordan M Fang, Ilaneet Goren, and Najeeb Ahmed (pictured above from left to right), for sparking an engaging discussion among participants on developing intentional assessments in response to the rise of generative AI. Below is feedback from our participants:

"I saw the importance of preparing our students for a workplace that is seeking people with an understanding of AI and how to leverage it in their field."

"I was impressed by the many creative approaches that the speakers are using to help students to work critically with AI tools. I appreciated the positivity that the speakers had about the push from GenAI to focus more on designing new assessments that support learning."

"I've learned about opportunities to collaborate to create a framework that emphasizes process over outcome, allowing students to demonstrate their learning over several steps."

A Recap of the Instructional Skills Workshop



Back Row: Sara Mazrouei (facilitator), Tiffany Khadim (facilitator), Tamara Bahr (facilitator), Julie Campbell, Asabi Aire, Shernett Bennett, Alex Rascanu, Ranya Khan, Katelin Hamilton, Nalini Ramlal.

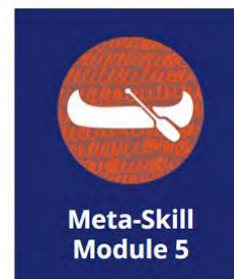
Middle Row: Lina Deker, Farhannah Villanueva (facilitator), Laura Barbosa, Suganya Vadivelu, Adam Palczewski, Catherine Ramkhalawan (facilitator).

Front Row: Hasti Nasab, Karyn Olsen (facilitator).

The Instructional Skills Workshop is a globally renowned professional development opportunity for educators and professionals to reflect on their teaching skills and gain peer-to-peer feedback. Open to experienced and novice educators, participants have the opportunity to learn effective techniques to teach adult learners, create mini lesson plans with effective learning outcomes, strategies to encourage learner participation, and how to create effective evaluations. From December 17th-19th, faculty and staff participated in this 3 day workshop on North Campus, facilitated by members of Innovative Learning's Teaching Excellence team. If you're interested in learning more about the Instructional Skills Workshop, click on the button below.

Humber HLOs

Last October, Innovative Learning launched My Employability Journey: HLOs - Optional Bonus Modules. These modules are a great resource for faculty to incorporate the HLOs into course content, and support students in building key skills and mind sets that can support their career. Modules can be accessed through Blackboard and HRMS Learn and are available to all faculty, staff, and students. Click the button below for more information.





Registration is Open for Micro-Credentials

Innovative Learning's micro-credentials have been designed to support the advancement of teaching, facilitation, curriculum development, and curriculum design skills. Micro-credentials are open to all Humber employees, free of cost.

The following micro-credentials will be offered asynchronously online and are currently open for registration:

Code	Name	Description	Dates
CRDD 001	Curriculum Design & Development	Familiarizes faculty with the curriculum development process. Faculty will review ways to plan and create a well-designed and thoughtfully sequenced curriculum for a course or program.	February 2nd - March 15th, 2026
TLHE 001	Teaching & Learning in HyFlex Environment	Introduces faculty to the methods, practices, and tools for adapting an existing in-person lesson plan for HyFlex teaching. Faculty will review strategies and methods to create a learning experience that engages learners in all three modalities and ensures an equivalent experience for all students.	March 23rd - April 19th, 2026

To visit our website and to register, click the button below.

Faculty-Focused Workshops

Start off the new year by signing up for Innovative Learning's workshops! During the last academic year, Innovative Learning hosted workshops across the institution with topics varying from educational technology and online course content, curriculum and assessment design, and our most popular category, Generative AI. These sessions are an opportunity for faculty to engage in professional development through virtual or in-person workshops to build their skills for classroom and student engagement. Sessions are open to all Humber faculty free of cost. Digital badges are distributed upon session completion and can be added to participants' LinkedIn profile.

Click on the button below to learn more about our workshops, programs, and events.



Re-Introducing the Digital Fluency Framework

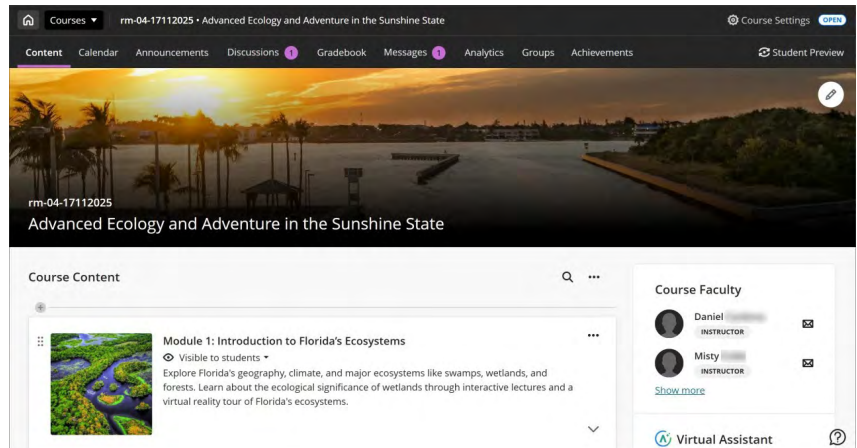


The Digital Fluency Framework (DFF), introduced by President Ann Marie Vaughan in August 2025, is a course that supports faculty and staff's growth and confidence in their digital skills and in navigating digital environments. In 4 comprehensive modules, learners will tackle topics such as ethical use of digital tools, adapting to change and new technology, how to engage thoughtfully with information, and solving problems in real time. The DFF can be accessed by logging into HRMS Learn. For more information, click on the button below.

New Blackboard User Interface

As of Thursday, January 8th, Blackboard Ultra's appearance has been upgraded. This change ensures that Blackboard's user interface is simple and easy to navigate. These changes accommodate better use of screen space, fewer navigation errors, improved performance, clearer context, and reduce motion issues. View a snapshot of these changes in the photo to the right.

Click the button to watch the video on understanding the new system navigation.



Important Information for Blackboard Evaluations

Blackboard is Humber's Learning Management System (LMS) where you can organize and deliver course materials, facilitate communication, and assess student progress. Below are a few resources to help you navigate Blackboard efficiently and make the most of its features:

Setup your Overall Grade: Learn how to set up your Overall Grade by completing the simulation developed by Innovative Learning, which is accessible from the button below. It is recommended that you setup your overall grade as soon as possible. Selecting the Weighted Overall Grade is the most efficient option. For additional guidance, click the buttons below.

Creating an Assignment in Blackboard: Assignments can be created in content areas, learning modules, and folders. Click the button below for a step by step guide on how to create tests.

Creating a Test in Blackboard: The instructor can assign point values to questions in a test, and upon grading by the instructor, students see the results that have been recorded when they are posted to the Gradebook. Click the buttons below for more information.

Additional Blackboard Resources

Click the buttons below for more Blackboard resources.

Showcase Feature in SPARK

Showcase 2025: Building Brilliance, was spotlighted in the latest edition of SPARK magazine. This annual Showcase event, hosted by Innovative Learning, celebrated teaching and learning across the institution and gave a spotlight to innovations and research initiatives. The theme, Building Brilliance, had attendees rethink and enhance approaches to teaching and collaboration and encouraged reflection on how to create meaningful change in education. With over 270 attendees, it was a day of community, knowledge sharing, and networking with both new and familiar colleagues. Click the button below to read the article.



Save the Date: Showcase 2026!




Innovative Learning is thrilled to announce that Showcase will be held this year on **Thursday, May 28th at North Campus**. This year's theme is **Poly.technic: We define it**. Mark your calendars!

Showcase is a full day conference where Humber faculty and staff have the opportunity to network and present their innovative projects. Through a combination of sessions, panels, posters, and exhibits, our showcase theme will navigate what it means to be a polytechnic, and how we at Humber, are the leaders in defining it.

If you are working on an innovative project and have media (short video clips or images) you'd like to share, please submit to the dropbox below for a chance to be showcased.

Questions can be directed to showcase@humber.ca.

Contact Us

 innovativelearning@humber.ca

 [Humber Innovative Learning](#)

 [Humber_IL](#)

 [Innovative Learning](#)

Humber Polytechnic is located within the traditional and treaty lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit. Known as Adoobiigok, the “Place of the Alders” in Michi Saagiig language, the region is uniquely situated along Humber River watershed, which historically provided an integral connection for Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Wendat peoples between the Ontario Lakeshore and the Lake Simcoe/Georgian Bay regions. Now home to people of numerous nations, Adoobiigok continues to provide a vital source of interconnection for all.