

SYNOPSIS: Teaching and Learning with Space in Mind

This session introduces the Teaching and Learning with Space in Mind tool, which has been developed at the University of Lincoln with funding from the funding councils for higher education in England, Scotland and Wales as part of the Learning Landscapes in Higher Education project [<http://learninglandscapes.lincoln.ac.uk>]

There is an order of use suggested for the resources in this session; the key resource is the tool Teaching and Learning with Space in Mind which extracts key pedagogical principles from a review of literature on learning space design and pedagogy. After each key principle is a question for delegates to reflect on prior to the opening of Theme 2 of the conference.

Delegates from further education are invited to participate in discussions about the principles underpinning effective learning space design alongside colleagues in higher education.

Introduction

One of the key issues identified in the Learning Landscape research is the importance of effectively designing the project brief for a new learning space.

Key to a successful brief is the way in which best educational practice is articulated spatially, and the ways in which these educational practices are supported by the most efficient and effective learning spaces.

Despite the recent enthusiasm for the development of new teaching and learning spaces in higher education, the relationship between effective teaching and learning and innovative new spaces is not well understood. This lack of understanding is perpetuated by the limited amount of research in this area.

The Teaching and Learning with Space in Mind tool is designed to deal with some of these shortcomings by:

- Encouraging staff to make use of the literature on effective teaching when designing new teaching and learning spaces
- Providing the basis for the development of key pedagogical principles to inform the design of teaching and learning spaces.
- Supporting a heightened consciousness about the importance of space in the teaching and learning process.

The activities described by the Teaching and Learning with Space in Mind tool provide staff with the opportunity to discuss the relationship between pedagogy and the design of learning spaces so as to develop a common understanding among key stakeholders of how to take their plans forward.

Issues to be explored in this session

- The relationship between the virtual and the physical in the design of teaching and learning spaces in the further and higher education sectors
- The emergence of spaces in higher education that support connectivity between teaching and undergraduate research
- The possibility of promoting and developing students as providers of services and support for teaching and learning spaces