Threshold Concepts: An Approach to Improve Engineering Education
http://www.ecm.uwa.edu.au/engineeringthresholds

Workshop
opened by Professor Graham Schaffer, Executive Dean, Engineering, Architecture and IT,
The University of Queensland
All university engineering educators are invited.

Participants will learn about the threshold concepts identified in foundation (1st and 2nd year) engineering courses for all engineering disciplines. Participants will also learn to use threshold concept theory to improve teaching and learning in engineering courses. Participants from engineering, chemistry, computing, maths and physics are all welcome.

Threshold concept theory is a recent development in discipline-based Higher Education research. Meyer, Land and others realised that there were certain concepts, central to disciplines, that would open up required systems and ways of thinking and yet were troublesome for students. It has been discovered that, not only can threshold concept theory help in focusing students’ and teachers’ attention, it can also be a curriculum development tool where there is a strong tendency to overcrowd the curriculum (Cousin, 2006; Land et al., 2005; Meyer et al., 2006).

Facilitators
Professor Erik Meyer, Co-founder Threshold Concept Theory
The University of Queensland
Dr Sally Male, Winthrop Professor James Trevelyan
The University of Western Australia
Sally has a background in electrical engineering and PhD in engineering education. She undertakes research on the engineering thresholds project. James is a member of the team and researches engineering practice and mechatronics.

Support
The workshop is one of three held in Australia in 2012. They are part of the project Engineering thresholds: an approach to curriculum renewal supported by the Australian Learning & Teaching Council. The workshops are further supported by The Australian Council of Engineering Deans (ACED). The venue is kindly provided by The University of Queensland.

Date: Wednesday 11 April 2012
Place: Axon Learning Laboratory
       The University of Queensland
Time: 10.00am until 2.00pm
Refreshments: Light lunch provided
Cost: Free to participants
Registration Deadline: 7 March 2012
Further Information: sally.male@uwa.edu.au
Tel +61 8 6488 1242
http://www.ecm.uwa.edu.au/engineeringthresholds
Threshold Concepts: An Approach to Improve Engineering Education
Workshop on Wednesday, 11 April 2012
in the Axon Learning Laboratory, The University of Queensland

REGISTRATION

Title (Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms …): _____ Full Name: _______________________________________

University: _____________________________________

Position Title: _____________________________________

Email: ________________________ Telephone: ________________________

Postal Address: _________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Engineering discipline/subject you have taught or studied: __________________________

Any special dietary or access requirements: ___________________________________

How did you find out about the workshop? _____________________________________

Please return to Sally Male by 7 March 2012
Email:  sally.male@uwa.edu.au  (requested details are sufficient without the form)
Fax: +61 8 6488 1015
Post: School of Environmental Systems Engineering (M015),
The University of Western Australia, 35 Stirling Hwy, Crawley Western Australia 6009

References
design and evaluation, in C. Rust (ed.), Improving Student Learning – diversity and inclusivity, Proceedings of the 12th Improving
Student Learning Conference. Oxford: Oxford Centre for Staff and Learning Development (OCSLD), pp. 53–64
and Land, R. (eds.), Overcoming Barriers to Student Understanding: threshold concepts and troublesome knowledge, London and New
York: Routledge, pp. 195–206

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