Threshold Concepts: An Approach to Improve Engineering Education

http://www.ecm.uwa.edu.au/engineeringthresholds

Workshop

for people who teach engineering, chemistry, computing, maths and physics

Participants will learn about the threshold concepts identified in foundation (1st and 2nd year) engineering courses for all engineering disciplines. Participants will learn to use threshold concept theory to improve teaching and learning in engineering courses.

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 the discipline, 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

Dr Sally Male, Associate Professor Dianne Hesterman
The University of Western Australia (UWA)
Sally has a background in electrical engineering and PhD in engineering education. She undertakes research on the engineering thresholds project.
Dianne is a mechanical engineer. She has taught and coordinated first year engineering units for a number of years and currently chairs the working party for the new Masters of Professional Engineering courses at UWA.

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 Charles Darwin University.

Date: Friday 1 June 2012
Place: Casuarina Campus
Purple 12, Level 1, Room 15
Charles Darwin University
Time: 10.00am until 2.00pm
Refreshments: Light lunch provided
Cost: Free to participants
Registration Deadline: 1 May 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 Friday, 1 June 2012
at Casuarina Campus, Purple 12, Level 1, Room 15, Charles Darwin University

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 1 May 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

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