ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

News & updates from the GCU Academic Development Team, part of Academic Quality and Development Department.

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2019!

This year we're encouraging all our staff to uptake a new digital or teaching skill. Whether you want to enhance your digital capabilities, or to develop as part of your professional development, we have our full training calendar available which are designed to support your learning and teaching needs. Keep reading to find out more on CPD, what our vital VLE refresh will mean for you and your students and find out the results from last edition's poll...

IN THIS ISSUE
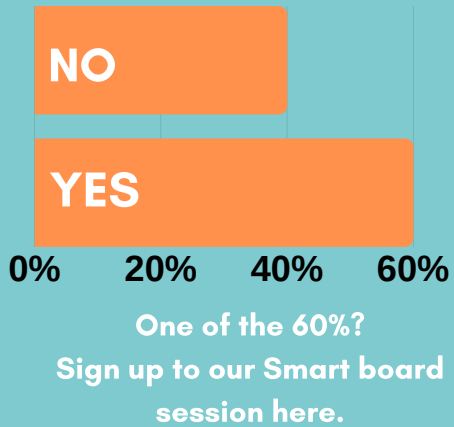
GCULearn Refresh: What will this mean for me?

New date confirmed for Learning & Student Experience week.

Upcoming Online and Workshop CPD.

The Team:

Dr Alison Nimmo, Head of Academic Development

Christopher Bateman, IT Learning Facilitator

Elfrieda Callaghan, Programme Coordinator

Dr Sam Ellis, Senior Lecturer (Academic Development)

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Steven Fraser, Learning Technologist

Shelaine Fraser-Robertson, IT Training and Development Lead

Jennifer Jackson, IT Learning Facilitator

Sheila MacNeill, Senior Lecturer (Academic Development: Digital Learning)

Rachael Magennis, Learning Technologist

Stewart Milton, IT Learning Facilitator

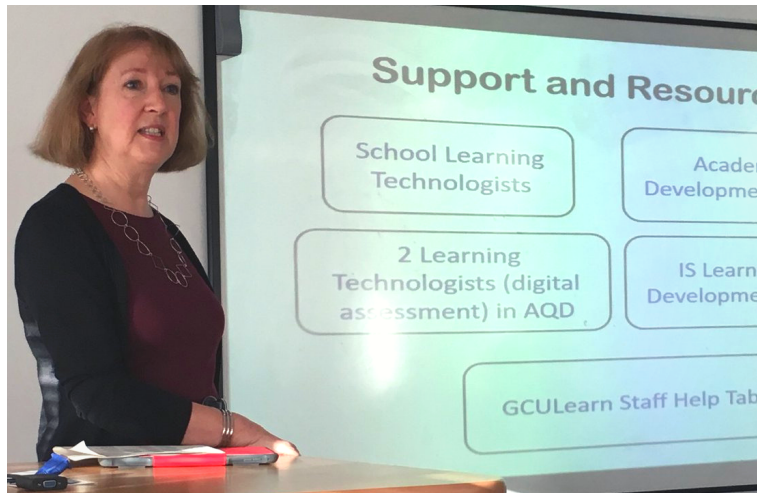## NOVEMBER POLL RESULTS: Would you find using an interactive smart board /room helpful?

NO

YES

0%   20%   40%   60%

One of the 60%?
Sign up to our Smart board session here.

POLL: WILL YOU BE ATTENDING THE LEARNING AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE WEEK?
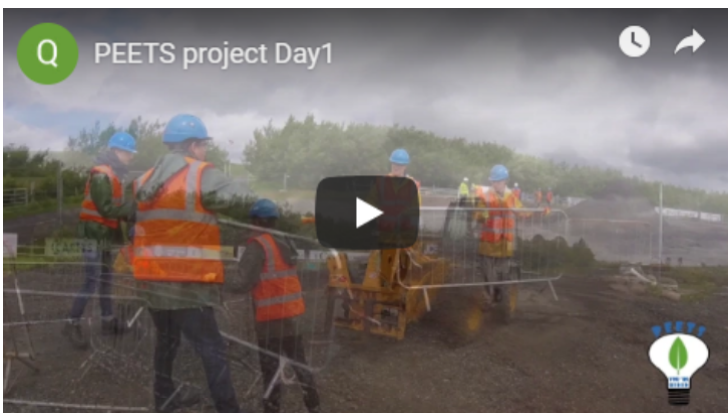
YES   **NO**

LEARNING AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE WEEK 2019

Our Annual Learning and Student Experience Week has been re-scheduled to commence from the **10 June 2019**. The session will be opened by the DVC (Academic) Professor Valerie Webster with a key note presentation '*A manifesto for the student experience: 10 considerations*' by Ian Dunn from the University of Coventry.

Emeritus Professor Linda Creanor presents at LSE '18.

PEETS NOMINATED FOR CATE!

Congratulations to the Promoting Excellence in Employability and Transversal Skills (PEETS) cross institutional team led by Prof Bob Gilmour and Dr Caroline Gallagher; **GCU's first nomination** for the Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence. A great achievement and we wish them every success for even greater achievement at the national award ceremony.

We will be holding **information sessions** for staff for entry for the 2020 CATE award and the National Teaching Fellowship Scheme (NTSF): contact Fiona McBeth (fiona.mcbeth@gcu.ac.uk) to book a place.

WHAT'S ON OFFER... CPD.

For Trimester B, we have collated our wide range of CPD training into a single calendar for Trimester B. Everything from IT Training, online feedback and assessment, active learning in a digital classroom and developing your digital/teaching capability.

See all upcoming CPD here.
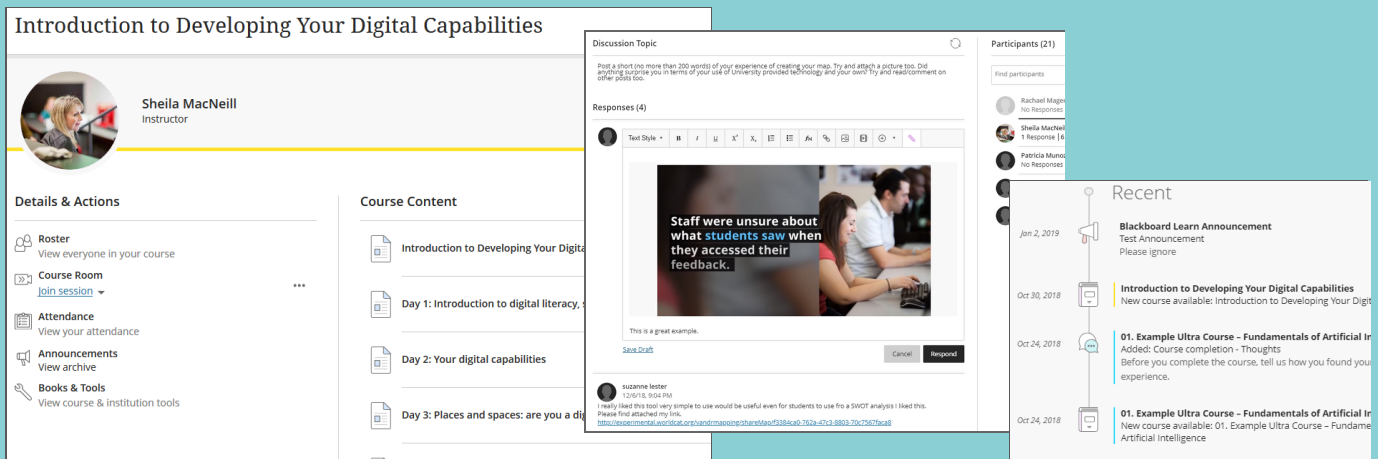
NEWSLETTER SPECIAL: GCU LEARN REFRESH

In the next few months, you will start to hear about our transition to Blackboard Ultra; the latest update to our current Virtual Learning Environment, GCULearn.

This transition will bring many benefits which will be incrementally introduced to both staff and students.
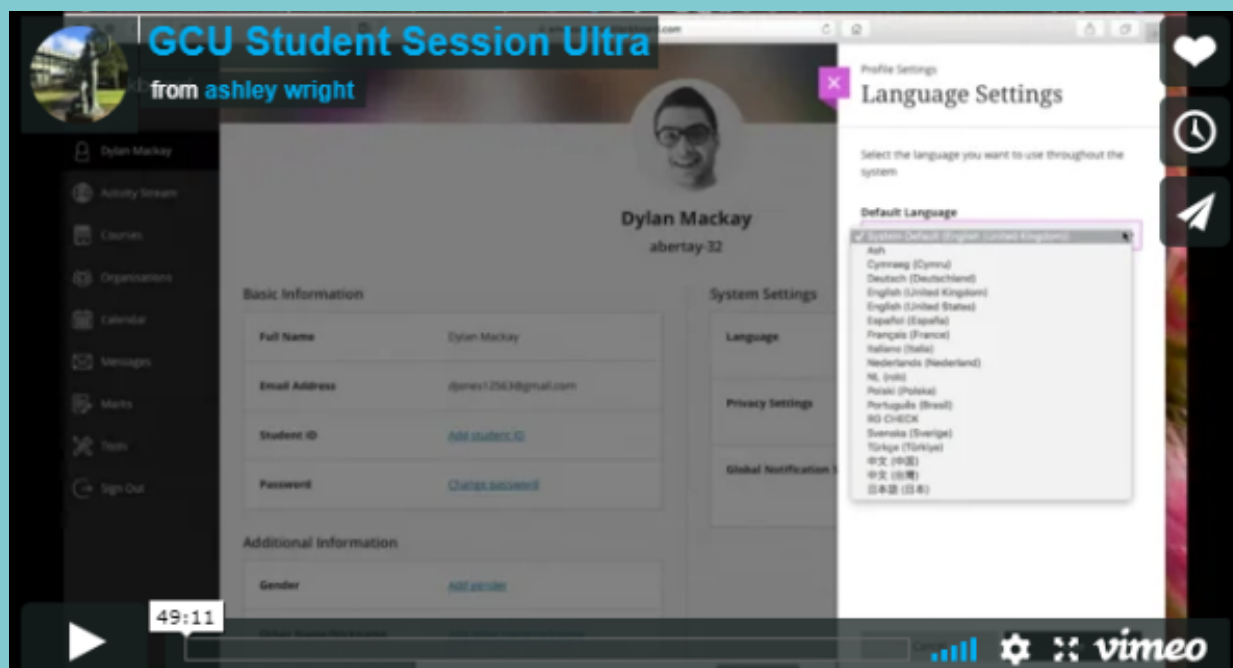
Here's what this will mean for you...

HOW YOUR MODULE MAY LOOK:

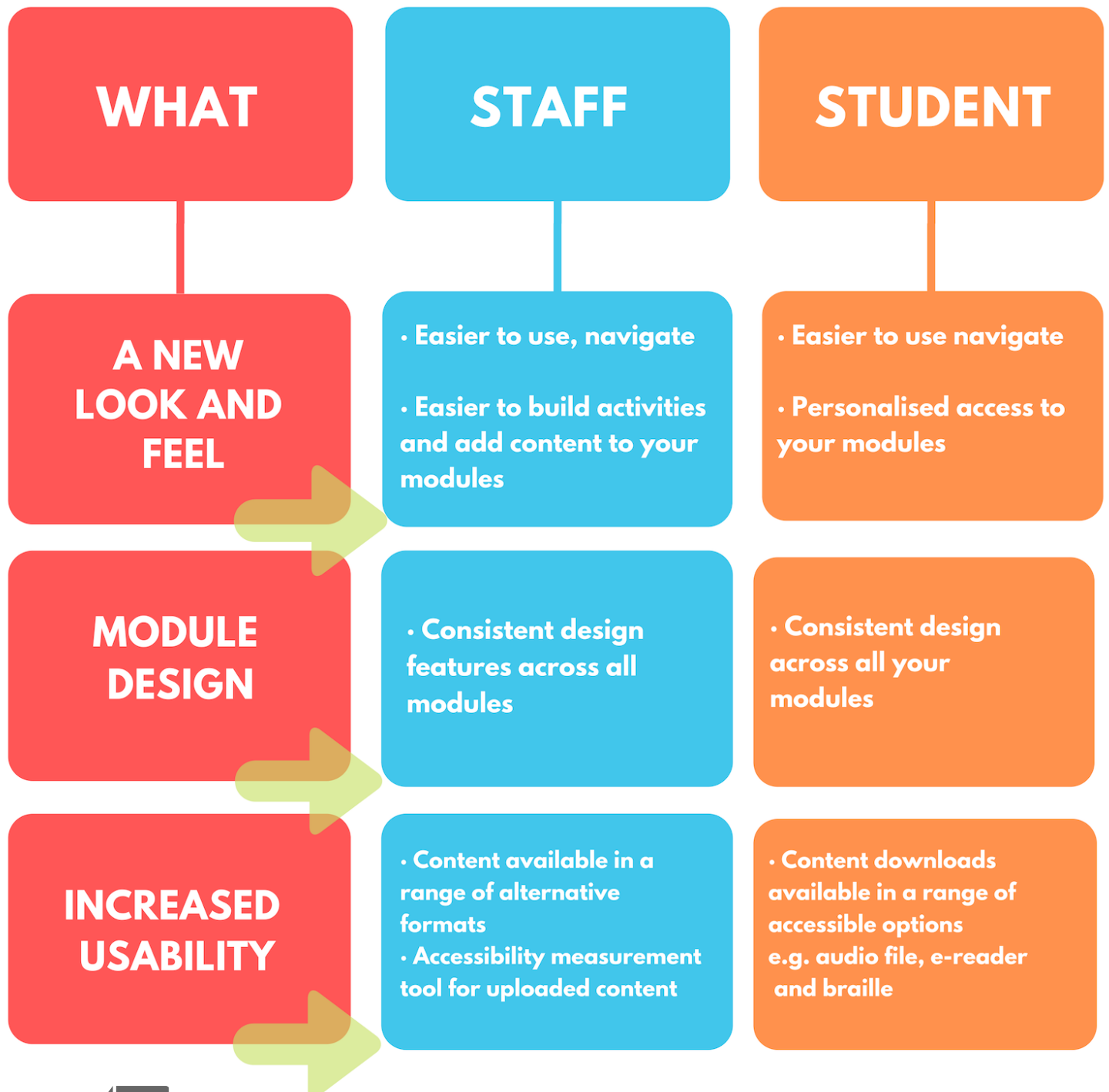

Course content looks modern and layout will be streamlined.

GCULEARN TEASER: STUDENT VIEW

GCULEARN REFRESH: OVERVIEW

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GCULEARN REFRESH: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

WHAT	STAFF	STUDENT
A NEW LOOK AND FEEL	• Easier to use, navigate • Easier to build activities and add content to your modules	• Easier to use navigate • Personalised access to your modules
MODULE DESIGN	• Consistent design features across all modules	• Consistent design across all your modules
INCREASED USABILITY	• Content available in a range of alternative formats • Accessibility measurement tool for uploaded content	• Content downloads available in a range of accessible options e.g. audio file, e-reader and braille

⬇ Print or Download our VLE info sheet and keep handy.