

Symposium
July 13/14, 2014 at the University of British Columbia

Technological Learning and Thinking: Clarifying the Roots of our Learning and Creativity

“Technological accomplishments characterize and transform cultures, yet their importance is undervalued. Their place remains obscure in today’s learning institutions, in government policy, and in the public mind.” (from the Call for Papers at TL&T 2010) The technological learning and thinking conference sponsored by UNESCO in 2010 invited over 100 scholars and practitioners to address this obscurity. The main question in 2010 was – what social mechanisms work for, or against, the integration of TL&T in societies and institutions? Thanks to a range of contributions associated with four themes (culture, design, sustainability, human ingenuity) we now have a better understanding of the social mechanisms (the strengths and limitations of institutionalized learning, the association or lack of it between different social strata and human productivity/life, the agency felt, or not felt, by people and families in their search for self-esteem and place). In short, we have a basis for tackling the relation between TL&T and human ingenuity. We also know that the human tendency to be technical/practical is linked to a natural or experiential way of knowing/learning. Finally, human beings are by nature, inquisitive, curious, and creative. The purpose of the 2014 symposium is to build on the scholarship from 2010 and expand on it, in particular, to clarify the roots of our learning and creativity.

Coordinated by UBC Faculty of Education and the Human Ingenuity Research Group – UWO Faculty of Education

Program

Sunday July 13: UBC Golf Course – 5185 University Blvd (TL&T authors and guests welcome)

4 pm - Meet and greet – Westward Ho! Bar and Grill (cash bar)

5 pm - Dinner (hosted by Stephen Petrina, UBC)

Monday July 14: Tech Lab (Room 1106) – Faculty of Education, UBC

8:30 am – 9:15 Paper and Discussion (Catharine Dishke, Western University, London ON) Cultural Theories of Creativity

9:30 am – 10:00 am Paper presentation (Carrie Antoniazzi, Vancouver, BC) Moving from Consuming to Creating Content

10:00 am – 10:30 am – Meet the Authors

10:30 am – 11:15 am – Paper and Discussion (Marte Gulliksen, Telemark University College, Norway) Teaching and Learning Embodied Making

11:15 am – 11:45 am – Paper presentation (Joel Lopata, Western University, London, ON) Cognitive Neuroscience and Creativity

11:45 am to 1 pm – Lunch (hosted by the TL&T committee)

1pm – 2:00 pm - Open forum – TL&T authors and guests welcome!

5 pm – Point Roberts - Informal Barbeque and Celebration - (hosted by Ron and Elizabeth)