



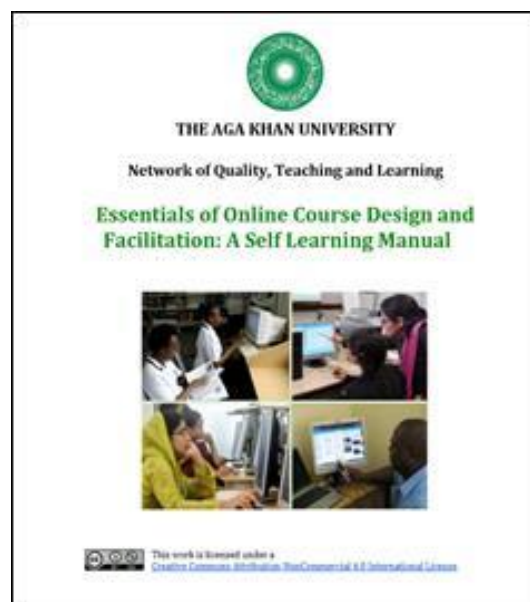
THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY



April 2021 | Issue: 4 | Change is the only constant!

The Headlines!

Launch of ‘Essentials of Online Course Design and Facilitation: A Self Learning Manual’ (1 min read)



QTL_net launched the self-learning manual on ‘**Essentials of Online Course Design and Facilitation**’ that responds to the needs identified by the rapid transition to online teaching group established at AKU last year as well as the various experiences reported globally about online teaching. This manual is a practical guide, designed from the philosophy that digital technologies provide numerous possibilities to reimagine teaching and learning in a range of pedagogical contexts.

[Download the manual here...](#)

QTL_net hosts Higher Education Commission and other University Delegates at AKU (1 min read)



The Higher Education Commission and the Quality Assurance Agency, Pakistan, collaborated with QTL_net at AKU, for the Annual Quality Assurance Progress Review meeting and training of Quality Enhancement Cells (QECs). **19 public and private Universities from Sindh** participated in the event. Vice Provost Quality, Teaching and Learning Dr. Tashmin Khamis, Director QEC Faisal Notta and Director Blended Digital Learning Azra Naseem shared AKU's good practices that have helped improve academic quality both before and during the Pandemic. Provost Carl Amrhein also made closing remarks, reiterating the importance of Quality in all AKU programs. [Read more...](#)

Meet the Inaugural Members of the Teachers' Academy! (1 min read)



QTL_net congratulates these **14 faculty members** on becoming the **inaugural cohort** of [Teachers' Academy \(TA\)](#) members. The AKU TA is the first interdisciplinary academy in the locations where AKU operates, and is established to recognise excellence in teaching in higher education. [Find out more about our inaugural batch here...](#)

Teaching Dossiers - Supporting Your Academic Promotions (3 min read)



Which of these pictures resonates with your teaching philosophy? A teaching philosophy is part of the development of your teaching dossier. QTL_net held its third workshop on **‘Developing Your Teaching Dossier, Including for Promotion’** on March 2nd, 4th, and 11th, 2021. The workshop helps faculty members in developing a reflective e-dossier that captures accurate and robust evidence of their teaching effectiveness; something which has become very important in the AKU promotions process. [Read more about Teaching Dossiers Workshop here](#) and see what participants have to say about it.

New Higher Education Academy (UK) Fellows (1 min)



QTL_net is proud to announce 12 new additions to our **Higher Education Academy (UK) Fellows** family! With these new additions we now have a pool of **45 HEA Fellows at AKU!**

By gaining **HEA Fellowship** through the [AKU TEACH scheme](#), you will gain an **international recognition** on Higher Education teaching which allows you to use post-nominal letters (AFHEA, FHEA). Moreover, fellowship can be used to demonstrate teaching effectiveness for those who are interested to apply to the [AKU Teachers Academy](#) and provides you the experience of reflecting and putting together your [teaching dossier](#) which in turn enables you to make a strong case for your **promotion**.

For those who have attended the TEACH Webinar and TLEW, they can submit their Expression of Interest by Friday, April 23rd, 2021. Contact teach.tlnet@aku.edu for more details.

QTL_net Collaboration with ELE_net (2 min read)



QTL_net offered its first online webinar in collaboration with the Network of English Language Enhancement (ELE_net) on 27th January 2021 to discuss the challenges of teaching and learning at an institutional and student level in a webinar for the topic **‘English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI)’** and the implications of the language gap for teaching and learning at AKU. [Read more...](#)

Ed Tech Lounge Reflecting on the Year 2020



The poster features a purple background with the title 'Ed Tech Lounge' in large, bold, black and yellow letters. Below the title is the tagline 'Let's brew our own PD!' in a pink, cursive font, accompanied by a yellow coffee cup icon. Two small video call windows show Dr. Anil Khamis and Ms. Azra Naseem, both wearing face masks. The event details, including the date 'Wednesday, April 14th, 2021 via Zoom' and the topic '2020 HINDSIGHT! Reflecting on the year that was – implications for the future', are centered. At the bottom, a table lists the event times for London, Karachi, and East Africa.

Ed Tech Lounge
Let's brew our own PD!

Dr Anil Khamis, Associate Professor, Institute for Educational Development, Tanzania.

Ms Azra Naseem, Director, Network of Quality Teaching and Learning, Pakistan.

"2020 HINDSIGHT! Reflecting on the year that was – implications for the future"

**Wednesday, April 14th, 2021
via Zoom**

London Time	Karachi Time	East Africa Time
10:00 AM - 10:40 AM	03:00 PM - 03:40 PM	01:00 PM - 01:40 PM

QTL_net is excited to host the upcoming ed tech lounge with **Dr. Anil Khamis**, Associate Professor IED Tanzania and **Ms. Azra Naseem**, Director Blended Digital Learning on the topic '**2020 Hindsight! Reflecting on the year that was – implications for the future**' on Wednesday April 14, 2021.

You can [register here](#) for the event and join us for an insightful and reflective session, where we discuss successes and challenges from the past year, and talk about what the future of education looks like.

The session will be hosted at 10 am London time, 3pm Karachi time and 1pm East African time (poster attached).

In Other News!

QTL and DED Session on ‘Engagement for Effective Learning’

We partnered with the Department of Educational Development (DED) to conduct a session on ‘Engagement for Effective Learning’ for medical and nursing faculty members to introduce the importance of student engagement through active learning in higher education.



Digital Learning Week Celebrations

Aligned with the global Digital Learning Day, QTL_net and Learning – Blended and Digital Learning team celebrated the [Digital Learning Week \(DLW\)](#) from the **February 22 till February 26, 2021**, highlighting faculty, staff and students' resilience and creativity during the rapid transition to online teaching in 2020. It was an opportunity for us to reflect on the successes and challenges faced, the impact of digital tools on learning and teaching and highlight our achievements. **Please see the complete infographic attached in the email!**



Student Orientation to Online and Blended Learning Programme

QTL_net offered Student Orientation to Online and Blended Learning to approximately 300 new students in Karachi on February 24, 2021, and to all new and existing students around 150 in number to SONAM, Kenya, on March 2, 2021. Students engaged in fun activities and shared what their one hope and one fear were related to online learning. They also watched a video of Live session disruptions and offered suggestions about how to prevent or mitigate the distractions.



Partnership with University of New South Wales (UNSW)

QTL_net has begun a partnership with the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney, Australia. Through this cross -institutional engagement, QTL_net will work closely with UNSW on shared goals of increasing the pool of HEA Fellows including SFHEA and PFHEA and provide various PD opportunities to Fellows and TA members. Moreover, focusing on some broader aspects of teaching and learning (such as Teaching Portfolio, SoTL) particularly in Medicine, will also be explored through this partnership.



UNSW
SYDNEY

Upcoming Events – View our full [Calendar here](#)

EdTech Lounge	Every Month's 2 nd Wednesday
Digital Bootcamp	Every 3 rd or 4 th Thursday of the Month
VLE Assistants Workshop	May 28 th , September 24 th
Introduction to VLE	June 26 th and 28 th
Teaching in a Virtual Classroom	August 10 th and 24 th
Interactive Synchronous Online Teaching	June 8 th and 15 th
SoTL Grants (Call, Webinar and Outcome)	April 19 th , June 2 nd and October 30 th
Re-Thinking Teaching (RTT)	June 21 st to July 2 nd
Teaching and Learning Enhancement Workshop (TLEW)	October 25 th to 29 th , November 1 st to 5 th
Teaching Dossier Workshop Cycle 2	August 3 rd , 5 th and 12 th

One to One consultations are available for faculty. Please make an appointment with our team
[Contact Us](#)

Follow our website for more details...

Network of Quality, Teaching and Learning
QTLnet@aku.edu | www.aku.edu/qt/