



UCC

University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



NATIONAL FORUM
FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING
AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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Thinking with things: How learning in a virtual world has made us crave hands-on learning

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought huge disruption to the ways in which we deliver education, interact with students and communicate with colleagues. At some point within the last 12 months undoubtedly we have all experienced what we can only describe as ‘screen fatigue’ and a sense of mourning for pre-pandemic interactions.

In November 2020 I delivered a virtual workshop in collaboration with a local artist which focused on facilitating hands-on approaches to teaching and learning via experimentation with paperfolding. Feedback from the workshop not only indicated an appetite for this kind of professional development opportunity, but an apparent craving by individuals to engage with their hands and produce a tangible, physical output, in an otherwise purely virtual world.

This presentation will consider some of the emerging areas of hands-on, creative approaches to teaching and learning within higher education including Lego Serious Play and ‘Think with Things’. I will showcase how engaging students in these ways can tap into deeper forms of understanding while enabling an enjoyment of tactile and creative interactions as a welcome break from looking at a screen.

**Going all online - teaching practice, learning
design and assessment
Thursday, 18.3.2021 · 11:00 online (via Zoom)**