



Erasmus+



## **Conference on universal design for blended and e-learning in higher education**

**University of York, UK and online**

**December 8 - 9 2021**

The coronavirus pandemic has thrown many higher education institutions (HEIs) headlong into e-learning and greatly increased the emphasis on blended learning, for both the short and longterm.

How have students with disabilities, students from a diversity of backgrounds and living circumstances coped with this situation and how have HEIs supported them? What has worked, what has not worked, what are the challenges for the future?

The Erasmus+ funded TINEL Project (<http://hamk.fi/tinel>) has been investigating universal design for learning in blended and e-learning situations since before the pandemic hit. Our work has become even more relevant since the pandemic.

### **The Conference**

In December we will host a conference to share best practices and challenges for the future in supporting a diversity of students in the post-pandemic era of blended and e-learning in higher education.

The conference will be a mixture of workshops, short presentations from participants and from the TINEL team about the work of the project. There will be plenty of time to network and we aim to start an ongoing support network of staff from HEIs to continue the discussion of these issues after the conference.

We hope to have a blended conference – on-site and online, but depending on the ongoing coronavirus situation, we will go totally online if needed.

### **No Registration Cost!**

The conference will be funded by the Erasmus+ Programme, so there is no cost to attend. For on-site participants, lunches and coffee will be offered, but you will need to pay for your own travel to York and accommodation.



Erasmus+



## Venue

The face-to-face conference will be held at Campus East, University of York. The University is easily accessible from the town centre of York, see <https://www.york.ac.uk/about/transport-maps-parking/>

Delegates at the face-to-face conference can stay at the very comfortable campus accommodation or may prefer to stay in York. Information about accommodation will be available soon.

## Presenting at the conference

You are welcome to submit an abstract if you would like to make a 15 minute presentation, although it is not required to attend the conference.

Your presentation can be about a successful practice or a problem you need help solving. You can present face-to-face at the conference or online (either live or by pre-recording your presentation).

You can submit an abstract as a 500 word text, using the template available (in Word and PDF formats) or as a 5 minute video clip or podcast (there is also a very short text document to complete with information about the presentation).

Template for text abstract: [Word](#), [PDF](#)

Template for video/podcast abstract: [Word](#), [PDF](#)

## Important dates

Deadline for presentation submissions: 22 October, 2021

Please submit your abstract of your proposed presentation to: [helen.petrie@york.ac.uk](mailto:helen.petrie@york.ac.uk)

Notification of acceptance of submissions: 5 November 2021

Please register by 12 November 2021

Registration (for all attendees): website will be available soon



Erasmus+



## Proceedings

We will publish an online proceedings of all the conference presentations. The online proceedings will comprise the abstracts and optionally a captioned recording of the presentations at the conference.

A special issue of the journal *Interacting with Computers* (<https://academic.oup.com/iwc>) will be organized, with presenters invited to submit longer versions of their paper.

Further details will be available soon.

If you have any questions, contact the organizer in your country (or Helen Petrie for all other countries):

Finland: Merja Saarela, HÄME University of Applied Science ([merja.saarela@hamk.fi](mailto:merja.saarela@hamk.fi))

or Tarja Ladonlahti, University of Jyväskylä ([tarja.ladonlahti@jyu.fi](mailto:tarja.ladonlahti@jyu.fi))

Norway: Anne-Britt Torkildsby, NTNU ([anne.torkildsby@ntnu.no](mailto:anne.torkildsby@ntnu.no))

Sweden: Håkan Eftring, Lund University ([hakan.eftring@certec.lth.se](mailto:hakan.eftring@certec.lth.se))

UK (and other countries): Helen Petrie, University of York ([helen.petrie@york.ac.uk](mailto:helen.petrie@york.ac.uk))