



# Education Support Services University of Otago Newsletter



February 2021

## Education Support Services 'Facilitating Quality Professional Learning'

Nau mai, Haere mai - Welcome to New Director of ESS

We are delighted to welcome our new Director, Davina Hunt who was welcomed into the ESS team in January.



Tēnā koutou katoa,

I hope you have all enjoyed a well-deserved break over the summer and are looking forward to a new start in 2021.

I wish to introduce myself as the new Director following Ian Stevens retirement after an impressive 21 years with ESS.

Coming straight out of the classroom to join ESS is a great privilege as I feel in tune with

the tumultuous year that was 2020. The challenges faced by our schools, kura and communities was intense, yet the compassion, resourcefulness and adaptability has been immense. As we settle into a new year we are embracing new opportunities and wish to extend our support and acknowledge the challenges still with us.

We are growing our team of facilitators and regions in which we provide services and we trust you won't hesitate to pick up the phone and contact us for specific PLD support.

I look forward to getting to know many of you and welcome any opportunity to visit your school, kura or professional association.

Ngā mihi,  
Nā Davina

## How to contact us

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### Director:

Davina Hunt

Phone: 03 479 4907 or 021 2494907

Email: [davina.hunt@otago.ac.nz](mailto:davina.hunt@otago.ac.nz)

### Office Administration

Education Support Services

Education Centre

157 Union Street East

P O Box 56, Dunedin 9054

Phone: 64 3 479 4900

### Website:

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/education/ess>

## Communications Coordinator position available in Dunedin

Do you know an innovative communicator in English & te reo Māori who would like to join our team? We currently have a vacancy for a Communications Co-ordinator, for further details visit

<https://otago.taleo.net/careersection/2/jobdetail.ftl>



## Farewell Ian Stevens

In December 2020 we farewelled Ian Stevens, our previous ESS Director. Ian had a long association with ESS, with the College of Education and with the University of Otago. There were many tributes to Ian from the various people he had worked with, commenting on the impact he had on their professional lives. Ian is now enjoying the next phase – which he calls 'retirement', however we are sure that he will still create a busy schedule. We wish him all the best.

## Professional Learning and Development (PLD)



We are looking forward to working with you this year according to your PLD needs. ESS Facilitators have the skills and knowledge to support you with PLD in both English and Māori Medium settings, and across primary and secondary contexts. We design responsive and flexible responses to your own PLD requirements. Please contact our PLD Co-ordinator to discuss further - [cheryl.pym@otago.ac.nz](mailto:cheryl.pym@otago.ac.nz)

Applications for regionally allocated PLD are made through the online PLD system. <https://pld.education.govt.nz/regionally-allocated-pld/apply-for-regionally-allocated-pld/>

Application dates are:

**19 February**

**14 May**

**6 August**

**29 October**

The PLD priorities for English medium settings are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• cultural capability</li><li>• local curriculum design</li><li>• assessment for learning.</li></ul>	The PLD priorities for Māori medium and te reo Māori settings are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• mātauranga Māori and te reo Māori</li><li>• marau ā-kura</li><li>• aromatawai</li></ul>
Digital fluency remains a priority in all settings.	

More detail regarding the priorities can be found here: <https://pld.education.govt.nz/regionally-allocated-pld/pld-priorities/>

## Nationwide PLD support for PCTs /pia/OTTs and their mentors/pou tautoko in English medium and Māori medium (teaching years 1-13)

We are pleased to extend the range of ways we are able to support provisionally certificated teachers (and their in-school/kura mentors), throughout the country, as they move from tūmua (provisional) to tuturu (full) registration certificate.

Click here [www.otago.ac.nz/PCT](http://www.otago.ac.nz/PCT) to check out our workshops, tailored support for schools/clusters of schools, topic-specific zooms, independent online e PCT modules and targeted support for OTTs.

There are no enrolment costs for this support.

To help us provide this support we are delighted to welcome Scott Wolfe to the PCT team.



As an experienced facilitator Scott will be a familiar face to many of you in the South Island. In 2021 he will be supporting PCTs and mentors through out the country. Nau mai, haere mai Scott. We are looking forward to an exciting year.

Please contact us with any questions:

English medium [joan.turner@otago.ac.nz](mailto:joan.turner@otago.ac.nz)

Māori medium [marama.pohatu@otago.ac.nz](mailto:marama.pohatu@otago.ac.nz)

## Programmes for Students (Accelerated Learning in Mathematics (ALiM) and Mathematics Support Teacher (MST))

We are delighted to welcome Robyn McNeill and Elizabeth Johnson who have just joined the team and will be working with schools in the Canterbury, Nelson and West Coast regions.

## SELO (Strengthening Early Learning Opportunities)



Metiria Light ([metiria.light@otago.ac.nz](mailto:metiria.light@otago.ac.nz)) is our new SELO facilitator (Strengthening Early Learning Opportunities). She is of Waikato descent and has had experience working as an early childhood teacher in Southland, Murihiku. Metiria will be working with kaiako in the Otepoti, Dunedin area and will be supporting them to develop their capability and commitment to bicultural practices. Advice and support will be offered to establish and grow whakawhanaungatanga and bicultural practice within each centre and through consultation with appropriate te iwi Māori whānau.

### National Education and Learning Priorities (NELP)

The Statement of National Education and Learning Priorities (NELP) and the Tertiary Education Strategy (TES) set out the Government's priorities for education that will ensure the success and wellbeing of all learners. They are statutory documents issued under the Education and Training Act 2020 that direct government and education sector activities towards the actions that will make the biggest difference, and ensuring that we are able to strengthen the education system to deliver successful outcomes for all learners/ākonga. Refer to the Ministry of Education website here: [NELP](#) for further details and to download relevant documents.

### Meeting your professional learning needs

Education Support Services <https://www.otago.ac.nz/education/ess/> is dedicated to developing and providing quality professional learning and development with and for educators to improve outcomes for all learners. We have highly committed and experienced facilitators who draw on current research and practice to build educators' capability within schools and organisations.

At ESS, we believe that successful and sustainable professional learning occurs when the development is designed to meet the specific needs of schools or clusters of schools. ESS will work in partnership with you to individually tailor professional learning to best meet your identified PLD needs. To discuss your professional learning requirements further contact [davina.hunt@otago.ac.nz](mailto:davina.hunt@otago.ac.nz).

**Delivery Method:** The PLD delivery method can be designed to meet your needs. For example using face-to-face, online, one-to-one, syndicate/department, whole school, community, Boards of Trustees and clusters of teachers and schools, or a combination of these approaches.

### Science Workshop: *Engaging Year 6-10 students in stimulating Science investigations*

Investigating a range of contexts that engage learners together with novel practical activities that encourage students to experience the awe and wonder of science. This will include locating science learning within Mātauranga Māori. The literacy demands of report writing will be examined along with strategies to support learners.

**Who should attend?** Year 6-10 Science teachers keen to develop their use of a range of contexts to engage students in science.

Follow the link at the base of this page: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/education/ess/Science.html> for more information and registration details.

### Year 0-8 Science workshops available soon

We also have workshops in Dunedin and Invercargill for any Year 0-8 teachers interested in using science as a way to engage children in literacy, integrating science into your local curriculum and ways to assess learning progress.