Conference ‘wrap’
The 2016 ACDS Teaching and Learning Conference was held in Sydney 21 and 22 July 2016, hosted by The University of Sydney at the New Law Building, University of Sydney.

The conference was opened by Professor Adam Bridgeman, Conference Chair and Professor John Rice, Executive Director, ACDS who introduced the conference theme Driving Engagement through Learning Design’. Sixty five teaching and learning leaders from Faculties of Science from across Australia attended, including Associate Deans of Learning & Teaching and their equivalents. Following the ‘Acknowledgement of Country’, the first sessions commenced, and so did the Twitter feed…!

Assessment – Authentic & engaging
The first session ‘Engaging through assessment’ was presented by Professor Geoffrey Crisp from the University of New South Wales. This session looked at how an assessment framework could in fact engage students in their learning outcomes. This session was followed with: ‘Designing authentic assessment’ presented by Professor Tina Overton, Monash University.

Life Long Learning
Dr Jenny Saleeba from the University of Sydney presented her session ‘Engagement in lifelong learning’ where she encouraged the audience to explore the idea for structuring and identifying degrees to facilitate re-entry points over an individual’s life and career.
Teaching Practice
Professor Michael Drinkwater, University of Queensland presented the ‘Professional Learning | Teaching Practice Inventory’. There was much discussion of the importance of self-efficacy, and the sometimes assumed skill of self-assessment.

Reward & Recognition and Peer Review
Dr Beth Beckmann from ANU presented the session: ‘Professional Recognition of University Teachers’. Beth raised the idea of introducing international accreditation as a way to recognise teaching performance in Australia.

Prof Denise Chalmers presented her work on Teaching Standards for Australian Universities which helps institutions, Faculties and disciplines self-assess.

Is there a role for Peer Review in ACDS? 93% yes! The next question is: How can the ACDS support Peer Review?

Professor Pauline Ross and Assoc Prof Manju Sharma, presented the session: ‘Peer review and regulation’.
Inspiration from OLT Fellows:
Five OLT fellows presented their projects: Professor Denise Chalmers (UWA); Professor Amanda Henderson (Griffith); Associate Professor Mauro Mocerino (Curtin); Associate Professor Sarah O'Shea (Wollongong) and Dr Jessica Vanderlelie (Griffith). This session was followed with discussion about ‘Life post-OLT, priorities and opportunities’ lead by John Rice, ACDS, and Adam Bridgeman, The University of Sydney.

Curriculum review
Professor Pip Pattison from Sydney University presented the session ‘Embedding Graduate Qualities in Science Degrees’. Pip outlined a significant opportunity to influence the Science curriculum at Sydney.

Dr Kelly Matthews from the University of Queensland actively engaged the conference crowd with her presentation on the ‘Student voice in curriculum review’. Kelly asked delegates to consider the value of students as partners in curriculum design.
Indigenous Science

Dr Chris Matthews, Griffith University, Chair, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mathematics Alliance (ATSIMA) gave a talk about the influences in his own life, his passion for applied mathematics, and the importance of integration of indigenous science into the science curricula.

This session was followed with discussion about ‘Integration of indigenous science’ by Dr Peter Ampt and PhD student Mr Mitchell Gibbs, University of Sydney.
WIL
The ACDS WIL in Science project – Professor Liz Johnson, presented. A national project to develop work-integrated learning in Faculties of Science.

Thank you!
A sincere thank you to our speakers, our session chairs, our hosts, organisers and delegates. It has been affirming to share some challenging topics within such a dynamic and constructive peer network.

Need more information?
For all conference papers, and to follow other events and news, go to the ACDS Teaching and Learning Centre Website: [http://www.acds-tlcc.edu.au](http://www.acds-tlcc.edu.au)