

HIGHER EDUCATION IN QUEBEC

10 Years
of Inclusive
Pedagogy

Building
a Path for
the Future

Call for Proposals



CRISPESH and UDL@Dawson invite faculty members, pedagogical counsellors, administrators, students and other higher education stakeholders to look back at 10 years of inclusive pedagogy in Quebec's colleges and universities.

Context

In 2010, the first high school graduates started entering college, then university, officially recognized by the Ministry of Higher Education as students with invisible disabilities having access to accommodations. This recognition has transformed the reality of teaching in Quebec's higher education institutions ever since. The yearly increase of students registering for adapted services at these institutions has led to the mobilization of stakeholders across the network to support the integration, retention and success of college and university students with invisible disabilities. Ten years later, what are the results of this mobilization? Which practices have been implemented? Which challenges still need to be addressed in Quebec, where diversity and cognitive variability are now the norm in the classroom? Furthermore, what has been the impact on students with special needs facing barriers such as pregnancy, lack of diagnosis, divorce, homelessness or death, but who are not eligible for adapted services?

As the different spheres of society are being restructured around diversity, we can no longer afford limiting higher education to traditional teaching methods designed for what Harvard Graduate School of Education Professor Todd Rose calls the average learner. As stakeholders in the field, we must rethink these methods in order to ensure equal chances to every learner while maintaining the standards expected at this level of education. Widely integrated into the Quebec educational system from kindergarten to secondary school, inclusive pedagogy (or universal pedagogy) falls within this perspective.

In Quebec, inclusive pedagogical practices rely notably on the framework provided by the Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Created in the 1990s, UDL is a student-centred and living model constantly evolving with scientific findings and society's changing realities. Far from being the only tool solicited in universal pedagogy, UDL has nevertheless played an important role in the province's attempt to offer equal learning opportunities to everyone. Today, in 2021, where does Quebec stand in terms of higher education inclusive pedagogy? What are the research and practices blind spots? What are the obstacles and preconceptions holding us back from adopting more inclusive teaching methods? Conversely, which innovative practices have brought us closer to this goal? What further actions do we still need to take to be more universal in our pedagogical approaches? These are all questions underlining the spirit of this symposium.

Objectives

By bringing together relevant players in higher education, faculty members, pedagogical counsellors, administrators or students with disabilities, this event will be an opportunity for participants to share their experiences, research findings, innovative practices, and more. It will also be an occasion to think about student-centred educational approaches, while bringing a critical and creative look at inclusive pedagogy. Most importantly, it will provide a chance to extend the existing conversations intended to help Quebec foster an increasingly inclusive pedagogy, while creating a space for the emergence of new communities of practice that will revive this educational approach throughout the province. Finally, the conclusions drawn from the various exchanges held will be compiled in a special report taking stock of 10 years of inclusive pedagogy at the college and university levels.

Come and join us as we pursue these discussions and see how far this can take us!

The organizing committee invites faculty members, pedagogical counsellors, administrators, researchers, as well as students, parents of students or other relevant stakeholder in the field to submit a proposal to share their experiences, successes, challenges, reflections, practices, testimonials or research findings in order to bring further the reflections on inclusive pedagogy in Quebec's higher educational system.

Targeted Topics

The organizing committee wishes to explore the following topics.

1

STUDENT MOTIVATION

How can inclusive pedagogy strengthen student retention and motivation to engage more with their learning process?

2

STUDENT LEARNING AUTONOMY

What is the role of inclusive pedagogy in guiding students to become expert learners, i.e., autonomous students in their learning process, equipped with tools and strategies they learn to use?

3

EVALUATION

Reflections on the design and development of equitable and inclusive evaluations, the different ways to evaluate, the what, how and why of evaluation.

4

DIVERSITY & EQUITY

Does inclusive pedagogy in Quebec respond to cognitive diversity and the need for equity in the classroom? What strategies have been implemented to address these challenges?

You have additional, interesting, and unique ideas? Feel free to submit a proposal. We want to broaden our horizons and learn from each other!



Targeted Formats

Consult crispesh.ca for more details about each format.

1

PRESENTATIONS

Presentations may be given in a 15-minute condensed format or 30-minute expanded format. They will be regrouped in thematic sessions and each session will be followed by a 30-minute discussion period.

2

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

The workshops will be 80 minutes long. They should address technical and practical aspects of inclusive methods/practices and should encourage interactions between participants.

3

DISCUSSION PANELS

Discussion panels will be 80 minutes long. They will be composed of 4 to 6 panellists and will address a specific topic. Their organization remains at your discretion but at least 20 minutes must be allocated for a discussion period with the audience.

4

OTHER FORMATS

You would like to share an anecdote, a video, or any other material? Feel free to contact us to present your ideas.

To submit a proposal, complete the online submission form at crispesh.ca or contact the organizing committee at symposium@crispesh.ca

General Information

If you are interested in submitting a proposal, consult the CRISPESH website for more information.

- We accept proposals in **French** and **English**.
- Presentations may be pre-recorded (conditions apply).
- Proposals must be submitted by **April 14, 2021**, at midnight.
- All proposals must be submitted online but a downloadable PDF version of the submission form is available on the CRISPESH website to help you prepare your proposal.
- The submission form must also include a description of your presentation, discussion panel or workshop. This can take the form of an abstract (max. 500 words), a 3-minute video or an equivalent format.
- Everyone submitting a proposal **before March 24** will have the possibility to request feedback from the organizing committee (one feedback request per submission).
- The organizing committee will send the selection results to everyone who submitted a proposal **by the end of April**.
- **If your proposal is selected, you will have free access to the symposium.**



Selection Criteria

Submitted proposals will be evaluated and selected according to 4 main criteria.

1

LINK TO THE THEME (9 pts)

Does the proposal explicitly address inclusive pedagogy in Quebec? Does it contribute to the ongoing reflection at the college or university level?

2

INCLUSION (4 pts)

Does the design of the presentation follow inclusive principles?

3

ORIGINALITY (5 pts)

Does the proposal offer unique innovative ideas to help Quebec Higher Education institutions become increasingly inclusive?

4

INTERACTIVITY (2 pts)

Does the proposal encourage interaction between participants?

Terms of Participation

Should your proposal be selected, you must agree to the following terms of participation.

- The sessions will be recorded and your material or the content of your interventions may be shared later by the CRISPESH (special cases may be considered).
- Your material must be made available to the other participants (special cases may be considered).
- Your material (ppt, video capsules, additional material for the audience, etc.) must be sent to the organizing committee **before May 28, 2021**.
- Your material and interactions should be accessible and inclusive (the organizing committee can provide assistance if needed).

Information and registration : crispesh.ca / symposium@crispesh.ca

