



Dear reader,

It is my pleasure to introduce the latest newsletter from EDLAB. In this newsletter, we give a short overview on our recent activities and projects. Whereas many of our activities were focused on educational support for blended and online learning activities, you can also read about our other activities, such as the new framework for PBL introduction in the Master and our excellence programs. I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and we would be happy to see you soon at one of the EDLAB activities!

Jeroen Kooman, EDLAB Director

INNOVATION

New EDLAB Advisory Board and EDLAB Student Advisory Board

Since 2021, EDLAB has a new [Advisory Board](#) with members from all UM faculties and the UM library. It replaces the previous liaison system. The Advisory Board allows us to preserve a faculty-EDLAB connection and gain insight in innovative ideas and interests at UM. The board moreover helps to give shape to and review new projects and activities, as well as promote EDLAB pilots in the faculties.

The Advisory Board members are Harro van Lente (FASOS), Hans Savelberg (FHML), Arie van der Lugt (FPN), Stefan Jongen (FSE), Nicole Kornet (LAW), Simon Beausaert (SBE), Rina Vaatstra (UB).

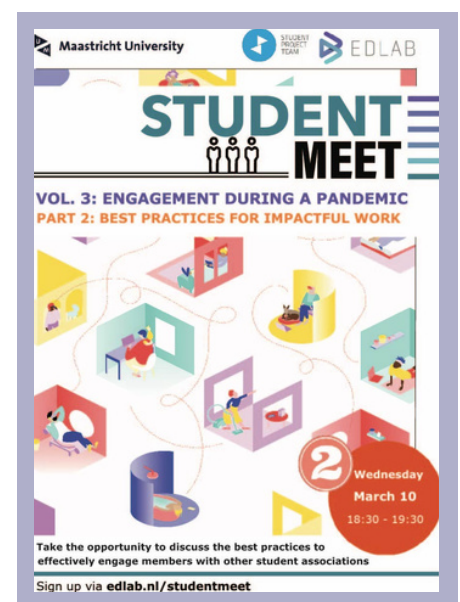
We also re-launched the EDLAB [Student Advisory Board](#) (ESAB). Every month, we meet with students from all faculties to discuss issues that arise for students, how to address these issues and challenges, and to receive feedback on EDLAB projects in their development. The students decided to focus on three broader topics this semester, namely creative PBL practices, visibility of internships, and how to better communicate available support for students' well-being.

New EDLAB project: Tutor Training in 360 Degrees

Imagine a training for tutors that allows for a real-life simulation of the tutorial setting. Based on positive experiences with virtual-reality glasses and 360 degrees videos of an in-home care setting in the BA Health Sciences, Nynke de Jong and other FHML colleagues will now apply this technique to the [PBL tutor training](#). As both content experts and process coaches our tutors are required to activate, stimulate, and challenge our students while overseeing the overall progress of the tutorial group and individual students. The 360 videos provide a safe environment to practice and learn, allowing tutors to zoom in on their specific roles, analyse critical incidents in the classroom and observe the classroom from multiple perspectives.

Student-Meet: Supporting Study Organizations in Times of Crises

With continued COVID-19 related restrictions and continued online learning, it has become increasingly difficult for study organisations to remain active, create a sense of belonging in the group, and successfully organise and advertise their events. To support the students in this, EDLAB, together with the Student Project Team, organised the third volume of the Student-Meet. The first event was an active workshop on community-building, in which students worked within their groups to work on stronger ties within the group. The second event took place on Remo. Three study organisations shared their best practices that night. Afterwards attendees could ask questions and network with other student organisations. Over 50 students attended these two events and the next Student-Meet is already in planning.



Record Turnout Teach-Meet ‘Solutions for Online Lecturing’

EDLAB's re-occurring Teach-Meets can still rely on good turnouts, also when delivered online. About participants listened to the innovative online lecturing experiences of fellow colleagues. The design and delivery of online lectures is a time-consuming task and offer numerous possibilities to ensure some level of knowledge transfer, interaction, activation and debate. The Teach-Meet presenters offered insights in how to apply several interaction-modes, tools and design- principles. Check our [website](#) for a summary.

.....

EDvance: Good Practices for Blended Education

In this digital age, the [EDvance](#) research team, based at EDLAB, aims to advance good practices of blended education that support the problem-based learning principles of constructive, collaborative, contextual, and self-directed learning. This past week, the EDvance team has been interviewing Vice Deans of Educations to get an understanding into the leadership and management of the current education from each faculty. Each Vice Dean has shared their vision and insight into the future of education. The next step for the EDvance team is to approach other educationalists and innovators in education, as well as students, to collect good practices. These good practices, backed by a review of scientific literature, will be disseminated UM-wide by the end of this year. Stay tuned!

.....

PBL Introductions in the Master: A Framework in Five Steps

The Quality Agreements 2019-2024 states that UM will “improve the transition of non-UM bachelor students to master programmes”. To that end, a framework for PBL training was to be developed in concerted effort involving all faculties, and led by EDLAB.

This led to an inspiring collaboration between representatives from all faculties. A working-group was established in May 2019, consisting of representatives per faculty who play an active role in student introductions to PBL. This working group explored the needs and possibilities regarding a shared approach. It rapidly became clear that there exists considerable diversity in approaches to teaching and learning, and PBL in particular, across the many master programmes at UM. This diversity between programmes also means that even students that completed at bachelor at UM itself may often need a new orientation or training when they transition into master programmes. For the group this implied that productive common ground could be found in the form of a logical and systematic approach for developing and reviewing PBL trainings, rather than one uniform type of training.

These five steps are represented in [the framework](#) the group developed. The framework can be used to review existing PBL introductions, but also to develop new introductions or trainings. The essence of the framework revolves around identifying what students need to know about teaching and learning in a specific programme, and making sure they know – and stay aware. This means that the framework can also be used as a basis and source of inspiration for reviewing and developing PBL introductions at the level of UM's bachelor programmes: the need to provide tailor-made preparation for the chosen educational work forms is as relevant here, as at the masters' level.

A shared framework at the level of design, instead of programme-dependent content, makes it possible for colleagues, even from very dissimilar programmes, to have meaningful conversations about educational design – in this case PBL introductions. As such, the framework induces a [CCCS approach](#) not only to how we teach, but to how we design our education – by co-creating, contextualizing and acknowledging and supporting the authorship of programmes.

SERVICES

CPD Activities and Educational Services

Since the switch to online education, EDLAB's various Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities have proved more popular than ever. In 2021, as well as offering a wealth of workshops on online learning and teaching skills, we have also zoomed in on topics regarding the role of emotions and happiness on the learning process and social engagement in collaborative learning. We would like to thank all trainers and experts who provided these workshops!

We are currently working on new activities for CPD as well as for our broader Educational Services offering. Check out the [CPD webpage](#) for more information and we hope to see you soon during one of these workshops. In the meantime, if you have any suggestions for us [please get in touch!](#)

Workshop "Online Skill Training for On-Camera Teaching"

One of these workshops was offered ten (!) times, namely "Online skills training for on-camera teaching". Trainer Julian Dismore, a British TV series producer known for his documentaries for the BBC, Discovery Channel, National Geographic and Netflix, supported UM teaching staff in developing their online skills for on camera teaching. Julian Dismore recounts:

"When Donna Carroll got in touch last year to discuss me running some media skills workshops for Maastricht academics, I had little idea I was embarking on such an enjoyable journey, encompassing learning how to say 'good morning' in Dutch and training video presentation skills to experts in fields as diverse as witness protection programmes and hepatology - as opposed to herpatology - which is very different!" Julian received various positive reviews, two of which are featured here:

Very fun and engaging course providing you with instant (personalized) insights regarding important aspects of on-camera teaching and presentations while using different techniques.

- Mélanie Monfrance
PhD-candidate, SBE

This was a very helpful hands-on training. I learned a lot from Julian and the other participants. The group size was well chosen and there was plenty of time to practice and receive feedback from Julian during the training.

- Aneta Spendzharova
Associate Professor, FASoS

EXCELLENCE

Excellence Programmes in Times of a Pandemic

EDLAB's excellence programmes [Honours+](#) and [PREMIUM](#) have been running, like all educational activities, online for most of this academic year. In order to make online gatherings more interactive, EDLAB has experimented with the REMO platform which allows participants of events/social gatherings to wander around a virtual room or floorplan and join tables with pre-assigned topics/goals.

The REMO platform has been used very successfully to conduct the PREMIUM selection procedure, the PREMIUM Kick-Off event where students got to visit different client booths, the H+ Student Intervision Evenings, as a virtual common room, and as a gathering space from where we conducted social events such as pubquizes. In general, we noticed that students, staff and external visitors appreciated the interactive nature of the platform, and they experienced online events as less tiresome than Zoom sessions.



A Decade of PREMIUM

PREMIUM is currently running its 10th year, and because of this anniversary we will publish one-on-one articles of important parties that participated in the PREMIUM programme in the last 10 years. We have had the honor to work with an incredible pool of excellence students, ambassadors, workshop trainers, coaches, mentors and clients. In these articles, we will look back on what a decade of PREMIUM has meant for all of our much appreciated members. The articles can be found on EDLAB's [website](#) and PREMIUM's [social media](#). Along with the articles, you may have noticed our anniversary logo as well, which will only be used this year.

.....

Peer-Review of the Honours Programmes

EDLAB has also been the coordinator of a UM-wide peer review of honours at UM. Last November, a panel of critical friends from universities in the Netherlands, reviewed the UM honours programmes based on panel discussions and a self-reflection report, written by EDLAB with input from the faculties. Currently, the report by the peer review panel has been provided and EDLAB is setting wheels in motion to discuss and implement the findings together with the faculties and their honours programmes.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE FROM EDLAB!

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER [HERE!](#)

FIND US: <https://edlab.nl>

VISIT US: Tapijn building X, St. Hubertuslaan 12, 6211 KD Maastricht