

INCLUSION'S FINAL FRONTIER: UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING

ICT and innovation in transformative education

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Dublin: November 2015

Shaping Inclusive Discourse

- Ethnic demographics
- Discrimination regarding disability
- National frameworks and Socio-cultural structures
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Educational systems and the ownership of learning
- Interculturalism and diversity.

Inclusion is not necessarily a neutral concept, although it is universally valued in academic literature and policy statements. Part of this inclusionary dynamic is to find newer and more innovative ways to include those normally excluded from educational provision.

Universal Design meets learning

- **Equitable use.** Design useful to people with diverse abilities.
- **Flexibility in Use.** Design accommodates wide range of individual preferences and abilities.
- **Simple and intuitive.** Design easy to understand, regardless of user's experience, knowledge, skills or current concentration level.
- **Perceptible information.** Design communicates necessary information to user, regardless of ambient conditions or the user's sensory abilities.
- **Tolerance for error.** Design minimizes hazards and adverse consequences of unintended actions.
- **Low physical effort.** Design can be used efficiently, comfortably, and with a minimum of fatigue.
- **Size and space for approach and use.** Appropriate size and space is provided for approach, reach, manipulation, and use regardless of user's body size, posture, or mobility.

Technology Innovation Partnerships (CITED 2006)

The Universal Design concept has roots in three areas:

1. Design of physical environments (residential and commercial space)
2. Web development
3. Teaching and learning (Universal Design for Learning).

Aim of UDL

- UDL aims to create barrier-free environments that enable teachers to apply universal design concepts in ways that support the needs of the widest range of learner differences. With the learning needs of today's students becoming increasingly diverse, enhanced understanding and application of UDL is essential.
- UDL is a field of inquiry and practice that considers ways of developing course content in a manner that is proactively accessible to as wide of an audience as possible.

UDLnet



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- UDL is a field of inquiry and practice that considers ways of developing course content in a manner that is proactively accessible to as wide of an audience as possible.
- *UDLnet* aims to collect and create best practices under the framework of UDL from a wide range (generic guidelines down to more specific ones) of four envisaged themes: inclusive learning environments, accessible resources, teachers' and school leaders' competences, examination of barriers and identification of opportunities.
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