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Overview of Professional **Development Framework** for all staff who teach in **Higher Education** & what we are learning from the Pilot Study Implementation (so far!)

Dr Roisin Donnelly & Dr Terry Maguire



Abstract

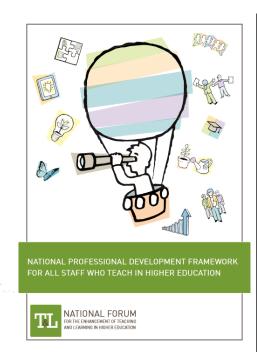
In higher education, we have become increasingly aware of the narrative of being part of a knowledge-based economy, and know there are strong, compelling reasons for continuous professional development (PD) to support our role as educators. For anyone who teaches and supports learning in Irish higher education, PD is fundamental for remaining current in their role, it provides the drive to progress their career, and to deal with change in the sector. Prior to 2016, there has not been a mechanism or route in place nationally to give structure, focus and support to individual academic staff to avail of relevant PD and utilise it to realise their full potential in their teaching role. Promisingly, there are more PD opportunities to choose from nowadays for those teaching in Irish HE than ever before, but negotiating the labyrinth can remain difficult.

This study discusses a key strand of the workplan of the National Forum (NF) for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning - the formation and early implementation of the National Professional Development Framework (PDF) for all who teach in higher education (HE). This important work is leading towards national recognition of an individual's commitment to professionalism in teaching. By deepening sectoral understanding of the PDF itself and raising awareness of the recent pilot study implementation with staff who teach in universities, institutes of technology and private colleges, we are adding to the long-standing debate about the possible connections between professionalisation of teaching and improvements in student learning experiences and outcomes. We have structured the article using a series of questions, to highlight what is unique about this PD Framework, its underpinning values and distinctive domains.



Overview of Presentation

- Introducing the PDF: highlighting the uniqueness of this national framework
- Explaining the PDF Pilot Studies: scope and composition
- What else is happening in PD?
 - PD Digital Badges Initiative
 - PD Teaching & Learning Projects





Professional development is something we do every day of our lives without even thinking about it – do you agree?

"When we can no longer change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves."

- Viktor Frankl

...however, as busy educators, it takes time to think about what we do, and why we do it, and how best to evidence and reflect on PD. How can we embark on PD and self-manage the process?



What is the National Forum's Framework for Professional Development (PD)? Published mid 2016

to provide guidance for the PD of individuals and give direction to other stakeholders (e.g. institutions, higher education networks, educational/academic developers, policy makers and student body representatives) for planning, developing and engaging in professional development activities.

In Dec 2016, we extended an invitation to participate in a pilot implementation to the HE sector...

We wanted to engage with many professional identities as possible in the pilot project...

Academic staff across disciplines; learning technologists; educational developers; research staff; library staff; support staff...



Terminology

PDF = Professional Development Framework

PDP = Professional Development Portfolio

Pilot Study = Group of between 5-20 participants from HE sector trialling the PDF from 1 Feb-31 May 2017

The PD Journey 2016-17



PDF Pilot Studies

23 Pilot Studies underway across the University, IoT & Private College Sectors, with 230 participants from 1 Feb-31 May 2017

Digital Badges

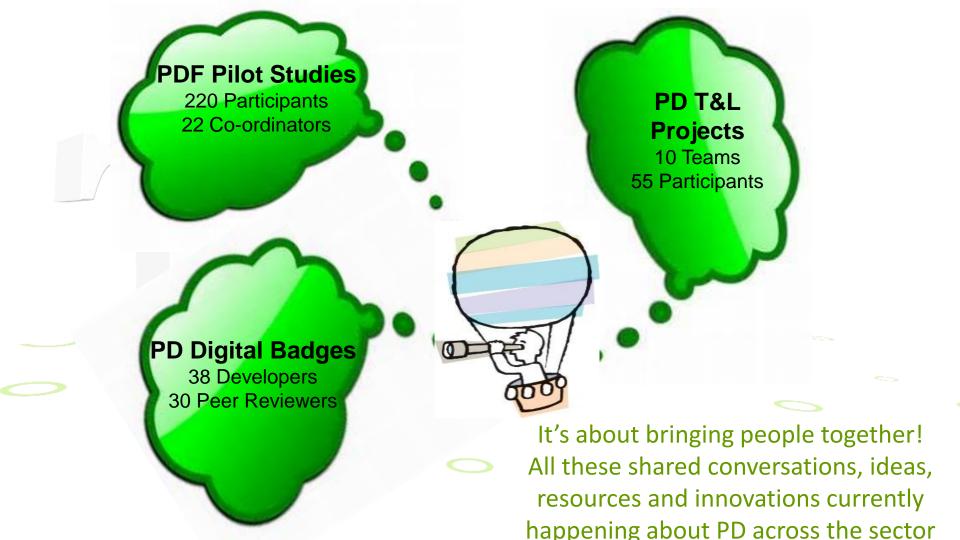
From 75 expressions of interest,15 Badges selected for development; lead & collaborating partners attended badge development workshop; Blog Support

T&L Projects

Roadshow visits to Lead Partners/Attending initial Project Meeting; Project Speed-Dating Event to nurture collaboration; Blog Support

Professional Recognition Framework 2017





Evaluation: Research involving data Collection with 3 layers of participants

Development: Target Group Pilots [n=230]; Feb-May 2017

Design: Pilot Co-ordinators [n =13]
Regional Workshops Completed

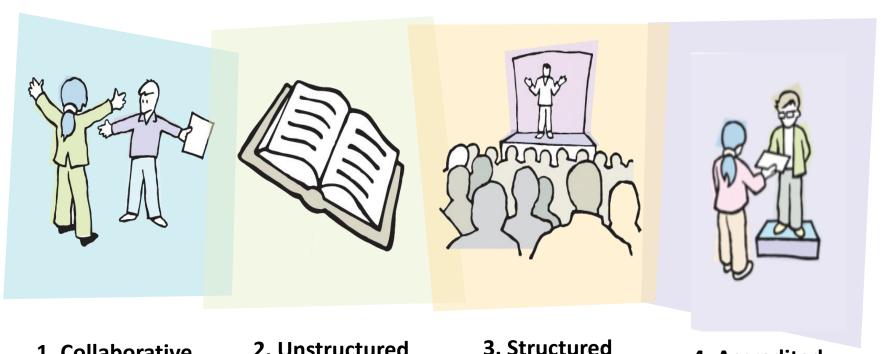
Planning: Expert Advisory Group currently being formed [n =10]

Consultation Phases: Formation of the PD Framework

Currently we are here!



Our Understanding of Professional Development

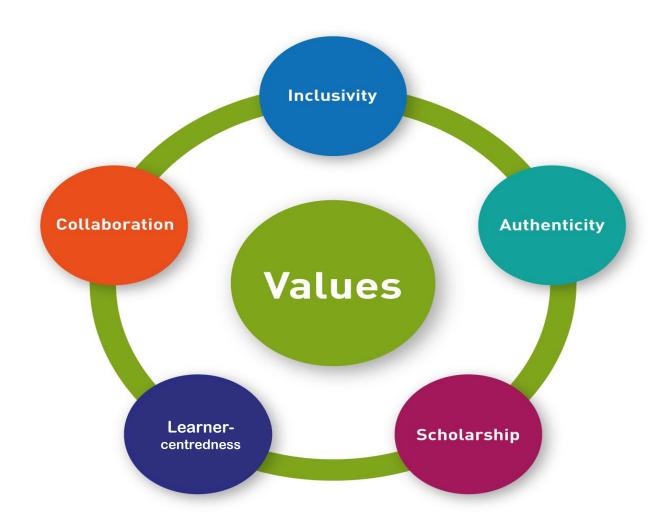


1. Collaborative Non-Accredited

2. Unstructured Non-Accredited

3. Structured Non-Accredited

4. Accredited



Griffith College:

Engaging with all domains [1&4]

HECA Teachers:

Aligning domain 1 to HECA manual

HECA Librarians:

Set up domains within ePortfolios using WordPress



The domains, underpinned by the framework's values.

Scope & Composition of PDF Pilot Studies



Announcing the implementation of the pilot studies for the National Professional Development Framework (PDF)

Why are these PDF pilot studies being done?

The National Professional Development Framework (PDF) has been developed to support those who teach in trish higher education with a mechanism for considering their own professional development journey, 70 implement the PDF across key professional identity contexts, a series of plot studies are being conducted which will ultimately inform a professional development national recognition framework.

What do I have to do?

You will be invited to reflect on your professional development against the domains and elements of the PDF [http://www.tnachingandleaming.aiw-po-noterfullypadas/2016/09/PDF-7meneovic-FINAL_0ff, and compelle this in a portfolio. To support you in this process, you will be invited to attend a 'kickstarter' regional workshop, and there is a mentioning scheme embedded as part of the PRIOS Studies.

PDF Pilot Study location(s)
A series of short interactive workshops will be run in the following locations to launch the PDF pilot study in each institution, and you are condaily invited to attend:

KICKSTARTER REGIONAL WORKSHOPS: Lunch provided

Date & Time	Location(s)	Pilot Study Area	Pilot Study Liaison
Mon 16 th Jan (12.30pm – 2pm)	NUI Galway	PG Teaching Certificate	sharon.flynn@nuigalway.ie
Tues 17 th Jan (10am – 11.30am)	UL	Teacher Educators	missy.parker@ul.ie
Tues 17 th Jan (2pm - 3.30pm)	Limerick IT	(1) Academic Leaders (2) Lecturers in the Humanities	martin.fitzgerald@lit.ie
Wed 25 th Jan (12.30pm – 2pm)	IT Tralee	(1) Nurse Educators (2) Learning Technologists	tom.farrelly@staff.ittralee.ie
Thurs 26 th Jan (12.30pm – 2pm)	DKIT	(1) Work Placement Co-ordinators (2) Engineering Lecturers (1) Teachers who research	angela.short@dkit.ie bernadette.brereton@dkit.is
Fri 27 th Jan	Griffith	(2) Researchers who teach	SHELL SHELL
(10am – 11.30am)	College	(1) Part-time Lecturers with Industry links (2) Educational Developers	fiona.oriordan@griffith.ie
Fri 27 th Jan (2pm – 3.30pm)	RCSI	(1) Healthcare Professions (2) Careers Advisors	martinacrehan@rcsi.ie
Fri 27 th Jan (5pm – 6.30pm)	IPTAS	(1) New Teachers in HECA (2) HECA Librarians'	amangan@iptas.com
TBC	NUI Maynooth	Academic Writing and Maths Support Tutors	alison.m.farrell@nuim.ie
TBC	IADT	Art & Design Practitioner-Educators	sherra.murphy@iadt.ie

Who can I contact for information or to enroll in a pilot study?

Please email the pilot study liaison listed above for your institution to discuss the pilot studies in more detail, and/or to register your interest in participating. Or if you have any quesions about the pilot study process, contact the Project Manager roisin donnelly@leachingandleaming.ie

PD Fixet Version 1, 20/12/16

Series of Negotiated Meetings for Pilot Groups

PDF
Domain
Stimulus
Materials

Of the

Support
Components
of the Pilot

Kickstarter
Regional
Workshops

Online
Collaborative
Learning
Community



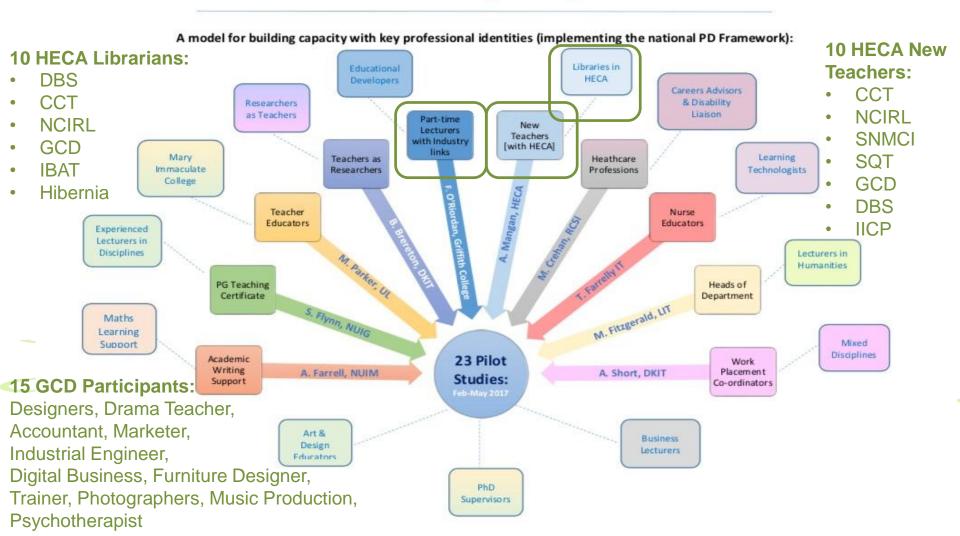
Studies

Monthly Support Bulletins and Podcasts

- 22 Pilot Studies across the HE Sector
- Supported by a pilot co-ordinator (and expert mentor)

'Kickstarter' Regional Workshops





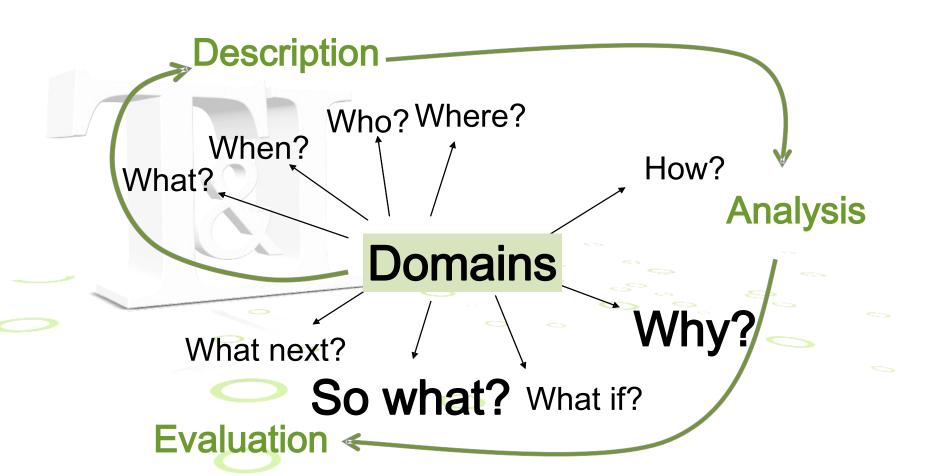
Participant Profiles

What initial information was collated about the PDF Pilots Groups?

- Their professional context
 - Description of participants' background and experience;
 - Current position held;
 - Institution/Organisation/Community;
 Description of their students
- Their current level of familiarity with the PDF



Enquiry-based approach to generate engagement in PDF Pilots



SUPPORTING THE PILOT STUDIES



MENTORING SCHEME FOR SUPPORT OF PD PILOT STUDIES

Introductio

The following materials will be available to the Pilot Co-ordinators via the Expert Mentors:

- 1. PD Pilots Information Leaflets.
- Info video to share with pilot participants.

The discussions during the mentoring process can take into account:

- 3. Details of all other NF projects running.
- Info on expenses to support this project if relevant.
- 5. Info on to access supports or resources, as well as time required on pilot.

Rationale

The mentoring scheme will be embedded as part of the Pilot Studies implementing the PDF across professional identity contexts for those who have a teaching role in the higher education sector. Involvement in this scheme is not intended to be a requirement, rather it a form of guided support offered to pilot co-ordinators. In this context, what is proposed is a mentoring scheme where the role of the expert group mentor involves assisting and supporting the pilot co-ordinator to carry out their pilot study.

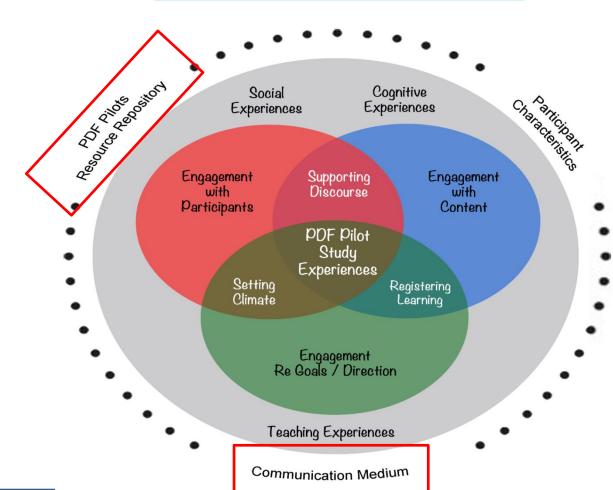




Dedicated, local and negotiated face-to-face support sessions that are available for the duration of the pilot study

Online Collaborative Learning Community

Creating an Online Learning Community for the PDF Pilot Studies



PD PILOTS RESOURCE REPOSITORY

Already Developed	By
Series of Reflective Trigger Activities for each domain: teaching philosophy statement, self-analysis, critical incident analysis, glossary, mentoring guide, FAQs	Pilot Groups & NF
Monthly Support Podcasts & BulletinsVideo Case Studies	Pilot Co-ordinators & NF
PDF Domain resources by pilot participants	Griffith College, HECA Teachers & Librarians You Tube WORDPRESS

DKIT;

Academic Writers

Animations of engagement with the PDF

EVALUATING PDF PILOT STUDIES

- NF ethics committee approval
- Signed informed consent leaflet
- 4 layers of data collection:
 online survey, paired interviews,
 focus groups, video case studies

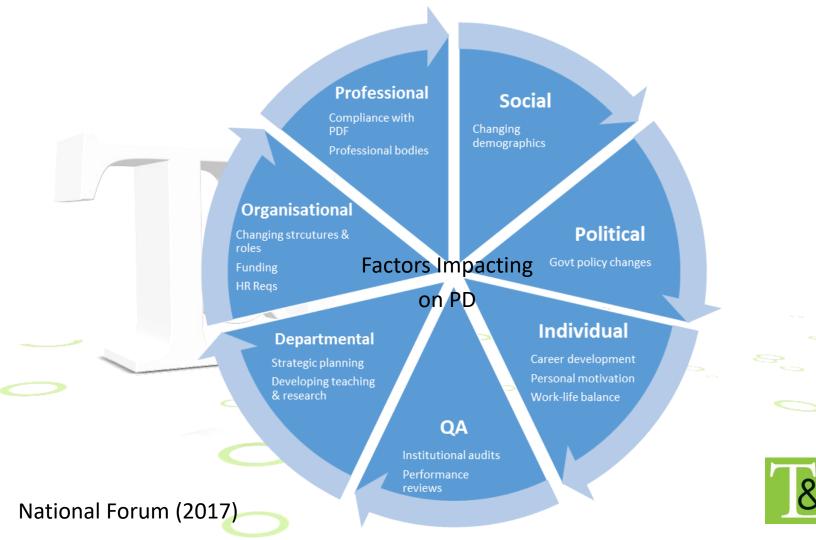


Introduction

Since 2013, the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education has been working towards the development of a nationally-recognised framework for capturing successful practice within teaching and learning support across the higher education sector. The National Professional Development Framework (PDF) has been developed to support those who teach with a mechanism for considering their way professional development through a structured process of reflecting on, planning, gathering evidence and validating their professional development. This is based on the belief that the National PDF is essential to driving improvement in, and raising the profile of learning and teaching in Irish higher education. As such, the National Forum has been consulting with the sector for some time in preparation for the formation of a Professional Recognition Framework for the future.

Providing opportunities for protessional development that could lead to career progression for all who teach! in higher education is front and centre of a pilot study implementation strategy that is currently being initiated to support this process. Throughout the first half of 2017, we have decided to conduct a series of pilot studies to trial the PDF in institutions—and it is a very exciting project These pilot studies with care led by the National Forum as part of ongoing development of the National PDF, aim to explore the processes and tools that are used to involvement and evaluate the PDF for all three who teach in this higher education.







DIGITALBADGES

Assessment: OF, FOR, AS Learning

Avoiding Plagiarism

Blended Learning

Campus Sustainability

Career Development

Digital Leadership/Learning Technologies

Disciplinary Badges

Gamification Strategies

Managing ePortfolios

Online Identity

Student Retention

Student Transition (First Yr)

T&L for for Post Doc's/RFs

Phase 2:

further expressions of interest

Academic Writing

Enabling student volunteering

Developing PD Provision for Irish HE

Intercultural Awareness

Entrepreneurship

Mentoring for Leadership in T&L

Getting Started with Online Teaching

PhD Supervision

Programme Design/Re-design

Programme-focused Assessment

Policy in HE

Reflecting on Teaching

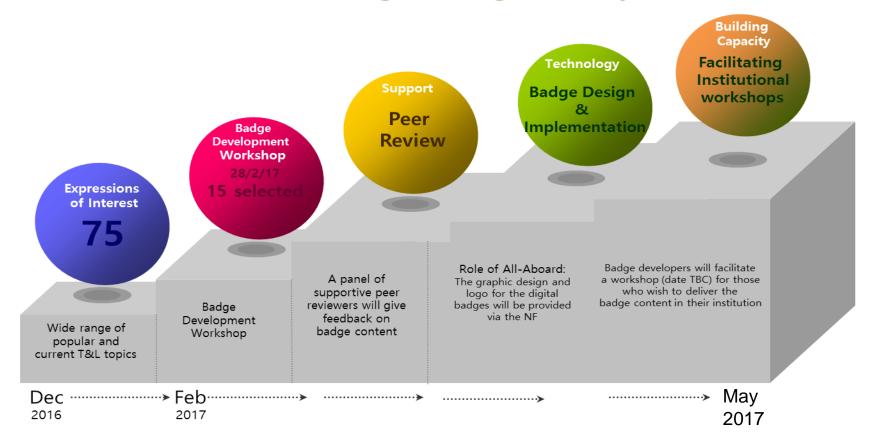
Student Engagement

Universal Design

Teaching Strategies for New Lecturers

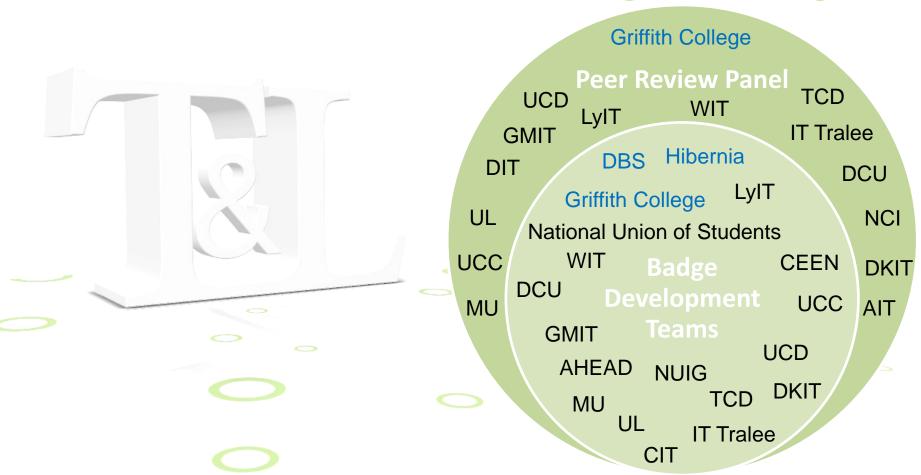
Phase 1: Feb-April 2017

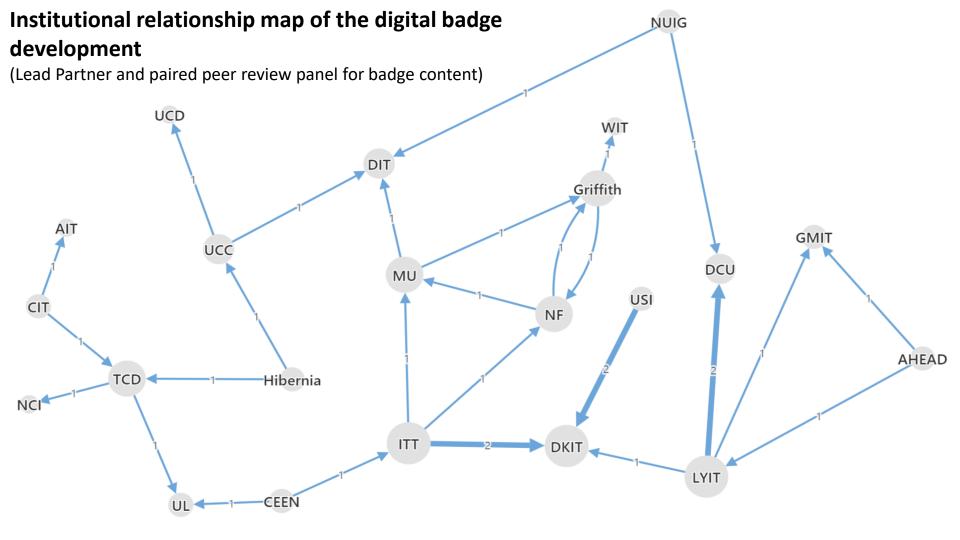
Towards a model of digital badge development





Institutions involved in Digital Badges





[PEDAGOGICAL] SPEED-DATING EVENT





Structured networking activity: Why?

- stimulate the T&L PD project meeting process
- spark enquiry about each other's PD work
- animate the interactions
- strengthen networking
- and going forward, to identity areas for cross-project collaboration across the 10 projects!

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What will you take away from the HECA Conference today to inform/enhance/support your practice?



LAUNCH OF HECA MANUAL

I would now like to introduce Dr Teresa Whitaker, who is a member of the Teaching and Learning Committee [sub-committee of HECA], chaired by Anne Mangan.

Teresa will talk to you about an open access, digital resource that they have developed for new teachers in independent Higher Education Institutions in Ireland.

