

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

JORDANSTOWN CAMPUS: 17C25

**WEDNESDAY 16th JUNE 2010
10.00am – 2.00pm**

PROBLEM BASED LEARNING: theory, challenge and practice

Problem based learning (PBL) is an educational strategy that is student centred that helps foster and strengthen the reasoning and communication skills necessary for graduate employment. PBL provides a forum in which educators can foster the development of process skills to complement content knowledge and encourages students to learn in context. As the transition from traditional instruction to a problem based approach to learning requires many changes for educators and for students, the aim of this workshop is to provide access to information on PBL and how it can either be adopted or enhanced in your own practice.

Conference participants will have the opportunity to:

- Explore the theoretical considerations and challenges underpinning problem based learning;
- Discuss the use of problem based learning and its impact on the student learning experience;
- Consider examples of PBL in practice and how aspects of these could be adopted into their own practice.

The organisers would welcome poster presentations from all attendees. Please contact Dr Sandra Sweetman at SF.Sweetman@ulster.ac.uk to register your interest in attending and/or presenting a poster.

Conference Programme

10.00 - 10.30am	Tea, Coffee and Registration
10.30 – 10.35am	Welcome
10.35 – 11.15am	The theoretical considerations and challenges underpinning problem based learning <i>Professor David Boud, Faculty of Education, University of Technology, Sydney</i>
11.15 - 12.00pm	"Supporting the development of PBL practice and research" <i>Dr Deirdre Connolly, Trinity college Dublin</i> <i>Facilitate, Irish PBL Network</i>
12.00 - 12.10pm	Tea/Coffee
12.10 – 1.00pm	PBL interactive session <i>Facilitated by Professor David Boud</i>
1.00 - 1.30pm	Case studies <i>Examples of PBL in practice from the Schools of Biomedical Sciences, Engineering and Education'</i>
1.30pm	Poster Exhibition and Buffet Lunch