

# *Techno trends in teaching*

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## Geared up for online **teaching and learning**

Following the global 21<sup>st</sup> century trend, UJ also moved into the **online learning realm**. This has resulted in a renewed professional development of staff affecting the use of Blackboard and the related development of online courses/modules.

Newly developed workshops now on offer do not only cater for technical aspects of the Learning Management System, but focus on the **design and development of an online course/module** based on best practice.

These workshops, presented by the Instructional

Designers/Teaching and Learning Consultants from the Centre for Academic Technologies, concentrate on the **correct online use** of assessments, assignments, collaboration opportunities, online activities and online class management.

When creating your own online course/module, it can be built quickly and easily by using Articulate Storyline.

**Articulate Storyline** "... is simple enough for beginners, powerful enough for experts" ([www.articulate.com](http://www.articulate.com)). This product gives lever-

age to: build any interaction, get **instant interactivity, and personalise interactions**. Moreover, it allows for the creation of screen-casts, simulations, and videos.

Storyline allows for **quick assessment creation** from a variety of 25 question types, building decision-making activities, a performance overview, and allows for work to be reused by means of questions from Excel imports and text files.

**Online courses** can also be distributed by being SCORM-compliant and thus plugged into Blackboard.

## **Online resources for skills development**

**Pathway to a SMILE** by Richard Mitchell

**SMILE** is a Synchronous Mobile Interactive Learning Environment that allows the lecturer to **present and record lessons** in real time on any mobile device. Students then interact in virtual classrooms without geographic, economic or physical

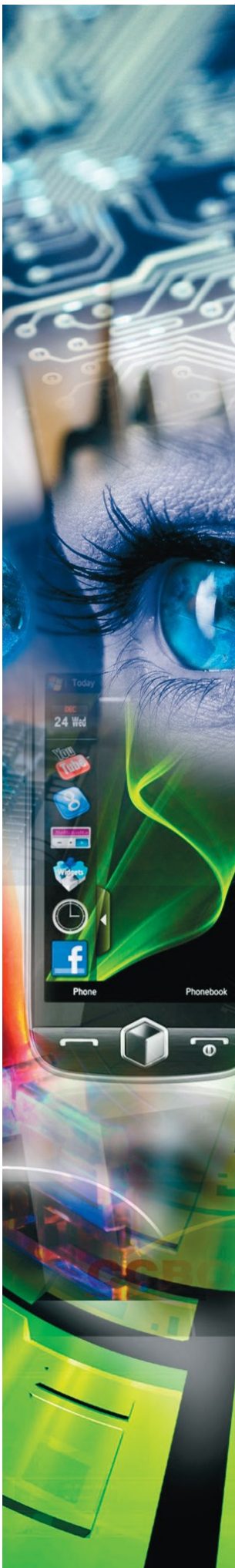
constraints. Face-to-face and online instruction are integrated which enhances accessibility and interaction.

The lecturer uses a web conferencing tool, such as **Blackboard Collaborate**, and a tablet to present live sessions.

Lessons can be recorded

and accessed through Blackboard, allowing the reviewing of missed classes. There is also an option to create **flipped classroom** videos.

You can read the complete **article** by Richard Mitchell at <http://er.educause.edu/articles/2015/8/pathway-to-a-smile>





## On board with Blackboard

### Blackboard Collaborate™

This easy-to-use, reliable Blackboard platform for web conferencing enables you to reach all students, all the time. It also supports **individual needs** and learning styles.

Features include built-in

phone conferencing, interactive whiteboard, application and desktop sharing, **mobile collaboration** and session recording. Lecturers and students can engage in a **virtual classroom** as if they were face to face.

See also the article on

SMILE on page 1.

**Blackboard Collaborate** should be available to UJ staff from 2016.

For more information, please visit <http://www.blackboard.com/online-collaborative-learning/index.aspx>

## APPsolutely!



The following app is very useful and can also be used on a tablet:

### Doceri

#### Description:

This is the "professional iPad **interactive whiteboard** and **screencast recorder** with sophisticated tools for hand-drawn graphics and built-in re-

mote desktop control".

#### Features:

"**Create** hand-drawn lessons, presentations and graphics and **share** them as still images, PDFs or audio/video screencasts."

"With built-in remote desktop control you can access files on your Win-

dows PC or Mac and **present** them to your classroom or audience when a projector is connected."

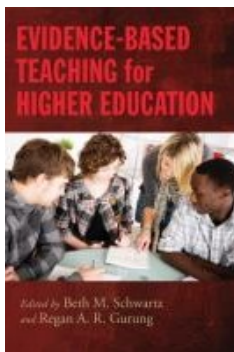
For more information visit:

<https://edshelf.com/tool/doceri/>

OR

<https://doceri.com/index.php>

## What's on our e-bookshelves?



The following e-book on online teaching is available in the UJ library collection:

**Schwartz, Beth M. & Gurung, Regan A. R. (Editors). 2012. Evidence-based teaching for higher education.** Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

"Over the past two decades, a growing body of scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) has emerged. This empirical study of **teaching methods, course design, and student study practices** has yielded invaluable information about how teachers teach and students learn."

This book helps lecturers **choose teaching techniques and tools** based on data-driven evidence.

It is, however, also a valuable resource for staff members involved with the professional development of lecturing staff to **maximise teaching effectiveness.**

## uShare: CAT's Technology-in-teaching seminars

CAT's third seminar for 2015 on the **innovative and effective use of technologies in the classroom** took place on 30 July, from 16:00 – 17:30.

The theme was **e-NACT: Enabling New Age Classroom Technology** and the presenters were **Zafeer Nagdee** and **Husain Coovadia** – both senior lecturers from the Faculty of Economic and Financial Sciences at UJ.

In line with the University of Johannesburg's philosophy on teaching and learning that encourages "learning to be" rather than "learning about", academics within the university have been called on to innovatively **embrace technology** as part of their collective

approach to classroom pedagogics.

In response, the **e-NACT** solution has been established to provide a **holistic, research-based approach** to technology integration into the classroom. In addition to showcasing the features of the e-NACT solution, the seminar also provided implementation guidance for adoption **across academic disciplines**.

Zafeer and Husain are qualified Chartered Accountants in the Department of Accounting. They are engaged in a host of research projects on teaching methods within the context of **emerging technologies** and **user platforms**.



**Zafeer Nagdee**



**Husain Coovadia**

They are also involved in the development of **applied solutions for technology integration** within the classroom.

## weShare: Interviews with CAT on UJFM

CAT team members have been interviewed on a number of early Wednesday mornings during **UJFM's Continental Breakfast Show** with AB da Costa.

UJFM frequently interviews staff from the different centres within Academic Development and Support to keep the UJ community updated about the great services and opportunities available to them.

**Dr Arno Louw** just loves technology and social media, in particular. In May, with mid-year assessments around the corner at the time, he was interviewed on **social media tools** which can be used for study purposes.

On 26 August, **Arno and Puleng Motshoane** – both Teaching and Learning Consultants at CAT – enlightened listeners' minds about social media and **digital citi-**

**zenship** by discussing the norms of appropriate, responsible behaviour with regard to technology use.



**From left to right: Puleng; the Breakfast Show host AB da Costa; Arno and UJFM team member Noko Molo-komme.**

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The primary purpose of the Centre for Academic Technologies (CAT) is to promote the use of innovative academic technologies in order to fulfil its vision of 21st century skilled academia at the University of Johannesburg.

The aim of this news bulletin is therefore to keep the UJ community informed about available academic technologies and resources and how we can support you in the smart use of these technologies.

#### Services provided by CAT:

##### Access

**uLink** – integrated website for all services at UJ. Available at [ulink.uj.ac.za](http://ulink.uj.ac.za)  
Access to Blackboard modules and communities, administrative self-help services, library services, research software, PsyCaD, UJDigispace and campus timetables

**uLearn** – your online courses available on your smartphone

**uHelp** – help you solve your technical problems, in uLink and uGo

**uGo** – a mobile app for your smartphone, available at [ugo.uj.ac.za](http://ugo.uj.ac.za)

Here you have access to uHelp, Blackboard, the library services, UJ events, staff directory, news, emergency contacts, academic programmes, admission, application, registration and social media.

##### Blackboard

This is UJ's Learning Management System available on **uLink** (web resource) and **uGo** (smartphone app). For technical support you can use **uHelp** or contact the **helpdesk** at [uhelp@uj.ac.za](mailto:uhelp@uj.ac.za) or 011 559 3580.

##### Skills development

**Basic computer and tablet skills workshops** for all staff and students on request.

Contact Dr Wilma Elston at [wilmae@uj.ac.za](mailto:wilmae@uj.ac.za)

**Online MS Office training modules** available in uLink under Modules and Communities.

**PERLS** (Programmed English Reading Language System) – a computerised program for reading and comprehension enhancement, allowing the students to progress at their own pace and time.

##### Academic writing and research tools

**Academic writing development and plagiarism tools** – DOC Cop, Viper, SafeAssign, Turnitin, iThenticate and e-rater

**Research software** – SPSS, AMOS, ATLAS.ti, STATA and Acrobat Professional

**E-submission of research products** – available in uLink

The logo for the Centre for Academic Technologies (CAT) features the letters 'CAT' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within a solid orange square.