

Hello and welcome to You Got This! A podcast about teaching and learning and sustaining community for everyone at Thompson Rivers University. I'm your host Brenna Clarke Gray, coordinator of educational technologies, and this podcast is a project of your friends over at Learning Technology and Innovation. We're housed within Open Learning, but we support the whole campus community. I record this podcast in Tk'emlups te Secwepemc within the unceded traditional lands of Secwepemcú'ecw, where I hope to learn and grow in community with all of you.

And today, I am still kind of on Reading Week. Yeah. I mean, not really. I do not think I took the downtime that I should have last week. But we decided to take two weeks on the down low, I guess, with the podcast before we get back into our regular interviews next week. So I've got just a minisode for you. I want to let you know about two important things that are happening around education, teaching, and learning etc. So. Let's get into it.

Okay, so the first thing I want to tell you about is that it is Open Ed Week. This is like Christmas for nerds. I love Open Education Week I always learn a ton. You know, I'm gonna put the full calendar of events in the show notes, but just to give you an overview: there's events pretty much every day this week at 11 am and 1 pm and they cover the gamut of topics: everything from like sort of theoretical conversations about how for-profit educational technologies have kind of turned us into the product as opposed to maybe the consumer to really hands on – like, how do you build an open education resource, or how do you use open access materials. And there's also going to be a showcase of some of the great OER development work that's been happening at TRU this year. So I really recommend checking out the suite of options that are available to you, and again, I'm putting everything in the show notes.

Something that's nice is you don't have to register you can just follow the links and join the sessions. So yeah, put them in your calendar, come out. I'll also link you to the BCcampus events calendar because you know the nice thing about most of these things being virtual these days is that we have the option to attend Open Ed Week events all over the place. I'm excited that I'm going to be giving an event at University of Alberta on Monday with my colleague Jamie Drozda. We're going to be talking about the eportfolios we offer. But more importantly, how we've learned to kind of like make them better in an iterative process over time. So I'm really excited to talk about that and just to join in a series of events at another institution. I think it's kind of cool.

So, yeah I hope you'll get involved. I know that this is a difficult week – like, first week of March, thanks I'm grading midterms, thank you for your professional development opportunity – and I do get that. I do. But most of the talks are only an hour and give you a chance to just shake up your routine a little bit. Particularly for those of you who are thinking about edging towards building your own open resources either for teaching or for research, there's a lot of resources this week that can help you get started. S

So that's the first thing I'm excited about. Yay, Open Ed Week. The second thing I'm excited about is that March marks the second iteration of the podcasting course that Jon Fulton, Jason

Toal and I developed last fall. Now, unfortunately, Jason Toal has left us for a different job. Jason, if you're listening: we miss you. But Jon and I are going to be offering the podcasting course again. Well we already are starting right now! And we really listened to the feedback we got on the first iteration. So, people wanted more assignments covering more different kinds of topics and so we've really tried to do that by adding a second assignment each week. That's totally optional. So if people took it in the fall and want to retake it, there's new assessments. If you got halfway through it in the fall, you can come back and pick and choose, or new users can decide which of the assessments they want to undertake. And then the other piece of feedback we got was more live sessions, more opportunities to talk this stuff out, and so we've doubled the number of live sessions from two to four. So there's one every week that there's an assignment due, there's also a live session to go along with it.

I'm really excited about offering workshops in this kind of way. For most of my career here at TRU we've done things kind of live in the one hour session, either live and in person or live on BigBlueButton. Those sessions are great and they can be really energizing. But there's only so much anyone gets done in an hour, and the problem is that, like, no matter how jazzed you are, you leave that hour and you probably go like directly to another meeting or to teach and you lose steam. Whereas with the podcasting masterclass, because there's new content for you every week, and because you can do it at your own pace, my hope is that you're more likely to stick it out and actually mess around. Maybe you don't create a whole podcast. But maybe you play with the skills and develop your talents a little bit. At least that's what I'm hoping for and that's what I think is happening, so it's pretty exciting for me. I really enjoyed the fall iteration. Engaging with folks was really fun, frankly – I really enjoyed myself and I'm looking forward to this iteration as well.

So, yeah! I mean Open Ed Week and a podcasting class. What more could you be looking for from life right now? Okay, that might speak to some work life balance stuff for me to work on – fair, fair. I think that's it for the minisode this week. I just really wanted to check in.

We'll call that Season 2, Episode 20 of You Got This! As always if you want to write to us you can email me. I'm [bgray@tru.ca](mailto:bgray@tru.ca). I'm also on Twitter [@brennacgray](https://twitter.com/brennacgray). And in both cases that's Gray with an A. All of our show notes and transcripts are posted at [yougotthis.trubox.ca](http://yougotthis.trubox.ca). Of course, you can always comment on individual episodes there. And this week of course you can find the whole schedule for Open Ed Week and also links to how to register for the podcasting masterclass.

I'm going to leave you today with a Tiny Teaching Tip, and my Tiny Teaching Tip is to encourage you to check out something Open this week in celebration of Open Ed Week. So maybe none of the sessions that we're hosting here at TRU appeal to you. But maybe you can find something at BCcampus or at another institution that does grab you and you want to go check out. But also, Open Ed Week could just mean setting aside an hour or two to really explore what the open resources are in your discipline. Or maybe it's about setting aside an hour or two to think about how you could contribute openly to your discipline. Maybe it's time to look at open research opportunities or explore how to publish or store data in the open. These are all things

that people at all kinds of different institutions are going to be talking about this week, but they're also just good practice for building a more equitable university where more people have more access to more resources. Increasingly, our tenure and promotion criteria and the criteria set out by the Tri-Council for those of us with research grants, like, increasingly these things are requiring a certain amount of open. So to celebrate Open Education Week, maybe take an hour or two to figure out what that means for you: attend a session, do some reading, spend some time surfing the web, reading an open access journal, explore how open could transform your practice. I'm looking forward to hearing what you find.

We're back next week with a regular length episode and an excellent interview that I know you're going to dig so I'll talk to you then. Take care of yourselves and each other and we'll talk soon. Bye bye.