# The Association for Higher Ed Access & Disability (AHEAD)

with tSeirbhís Oideachais Leanúnaigh agus Scileanna (SOLAS) & Education and Training Boards Ireland (ETBI)



Róisín Doherty FET Inclusion, SOLAS

Ann Heelan CEO Emerita, AHEAD

### Thomas J. Tobin

U of Wisconsin-Madison



Pathways 15 Conference

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### **Inclusion as Community**

LEVEL 4 Personal Assistant

### LEVEL 3

Individual accommodation

**LEVEL 2** Students with similar needs

LEVEL 1

Universal Design for the majority of students

# Broaden A11y, Keep Supports



### Offering students options to act on what they know

Providing access to tools to support expression of learning

Offering students different ways to understand content

UDL for FET



Supporting them to set goals and plan their tasks

Offering choice in how they

demonstrated their learning



### https://youtu.be/goZPh0gG2zA

100

So, getting the students to take ownership of their own learning.

Video



Your Most Common Support?



#### SEAMUS HEANEY



THE CURE AT TROY A VERSION OF SOPHOCLES' *Philoctetes* 

...

Human beings suffer. They torture one another, They get hurt and get hard. No poem or play or song Can fully right a wrong Inflicted and endured.

History says, *Don't hope* On this side of the grave... But then, once in a lifetime The longed-for tidal wave Of justice can rise up, And hope and history rhyme. So hope for a great sea-change On the far side of revenge.

Believe that **a further shore** 

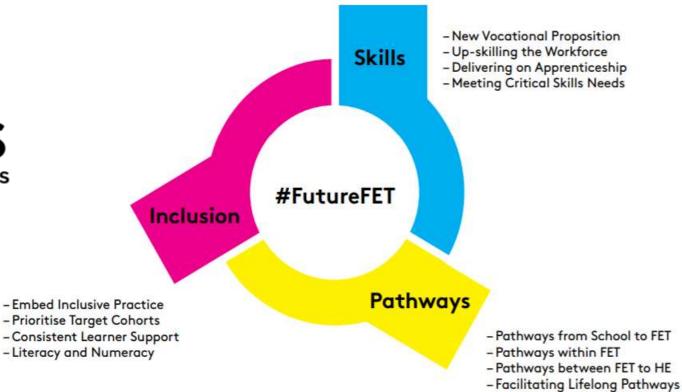
Is **reachable from here**. Believe in miracles And cures and healing wells.

Call miracle self-healing: The utter, self-revealing Double-take of feeling. If there's fire on the mountain Or lightning and storm And a god speaks from the sky

That means someone is hearing The outcry and the birth-cry Of new life at its term. It means that once in a lifetime That **justice can rise up** And hope and history rhyme.



SOLAS learning works



### Including Practitioners

"The FET system in Ireland values all the experiences and abilities of every student, we embrace the idea that every learner's learning is open-ended and diversity is welcomed."

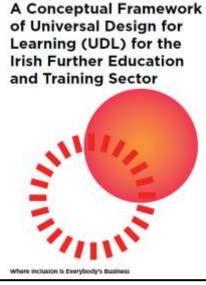
### **Giving Voice to Learners**

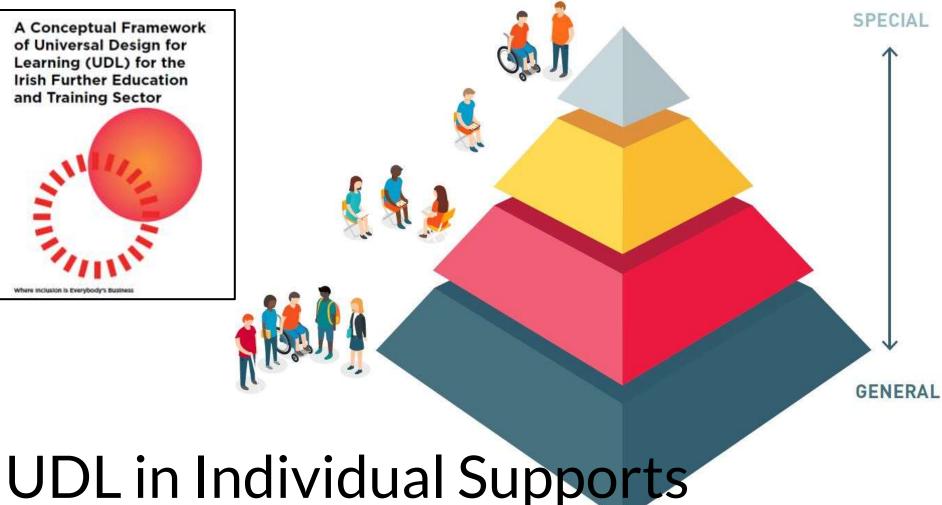


# **UDL Research & Rationale**



# "Doing For" vs. Supporting Agency





### Where are we trying to go? Why? What is our 'yellow brick road'?



## Outreach to Disability Officers



# Interviews, Visits & Data Gathering

# **Consultation & Formal Adoption**

### Your Advocacy Goals?

So the organisations themselves must fund any reasonable adjustments which creates, probably,

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### UDL for FET Practitioners

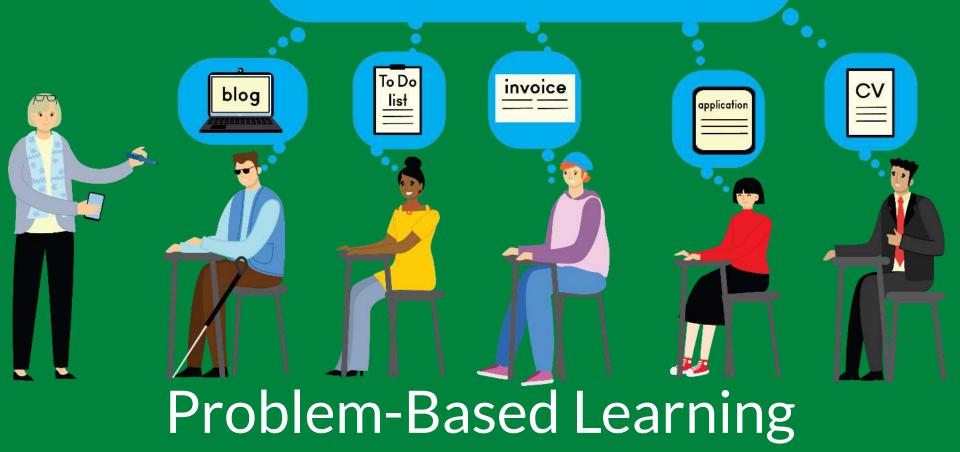
Guidance for Implementing Universal Design for Learning in Irish Further Education and Training Programmes

DRAFT: Last Update 20201107





### I want to be able to write ...



### **Starting Small**

Put together a list of materials and information that you want learners to experience in just one of the learning interactions that you have with them, whether it's an individual activity, a module, or an entire course. Then, brainstorm ways to create plus-one format alternatives for that information.

The goal is to lower barriers for being able to access, understand, and use information you share with learners.

Then, take action: share your list with a colleague and commit to implementing one alternative—share results with each other.



### Reflection, Startup, & Growth Tools



learning works

### UDL for FET **RESOURCE HUB**



### **UDL for FET Resource Hub**

ahead











UDL for FET Guide & Scoping Doc **UDL for FET Reflective Tools** Useful Links and External Resources Video Examples of UDL in FET

### **UDL FOR FET PROJECT**

The resources required by AHEAD to coordinate this initiative in FET are funded as part of the UDL for FET project - A project of AHEAD commissioned by SOLAS and ETBI. The project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Social Fund as part of the ESF Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning 2014-2020.



Ireland's European Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 014-2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union





EUROPEAN UNION Investing in your Future European Social Fund



etbi

I wouldn't change my children for the world but I will change the world for my children

 Further Education teacher quoting local mother of learners with disabilities

### THE ACTIVE INCLUSION NETWORK

Cork Education and Training Board Pilot Project for Staff Development





### Your Take-Aways?

## Call to Action: Your Voice Matters

### Your Network - Success Factors



**Call to Action: Inclusion as Community** 

### solas.ie / ahead.ie / thomasjtobin.com



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