

# **Educational Developers Caucus (EDC) GRANTS 2013 Final Report**

*All award holders are requested to complete this accountability form by the deadline date even if some project work remains.*

*This form will be posted on the EDC website and will help share your outcomes with our community.*

*This completed form should be no more than 3 pages in length.*

**Title of Project:** Specialized Service: Faculty Development and Teaching Support for Art and Design Disciplines

**Principal Investigator:**

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**Co-investigators:**

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*Melanie Rideout-Santarossa, Educational Developer (former), OCAD University*

**Overview of the project:**

The objective of the project was to solicit best practices from teaching and learning centres serving Canadian art and design disciplines, with the intention of informing the programming of developing units. This project resulted in the development of the web-friendly resource guide, *Spark: Explorations in Educational Development for the Creative Disciplines*. The resource guide is intended to spark conversation and collaboration, and is not meant to be a comprehensive summary of current best practices in the field. We hope that *Spark* encourages educational developers and creative faculty to continue sharing reflections and resources with one another.

**Educational findings/outcomes**

We conducted interviews with educational developers and art and design faculty from across Canada and the UK. Interviews revealed the following:

- Educational developers serving creative faculty and creative faculty interested in educational development often feel isolated.
- Educational development in creative contexts often happens through informal conversation between colleagues, or through faculty-led workshops.
- Most art and design institutions have no teaching learning centre.

- In mainstream universities, often creative faculty have access only to non-discipline-specific pedagogical and professional development.
- Many participants articulated a desire for some type of shared virtual space in which they could discuss approaches, share challenges, and compare resources.

Overall, the information gathered through the research project suggested that educational development in the creative disciplines is still a growing field and that developers and faculty would benefit from more opportunities for conversation and collaboration.

### **Budget**

- a. What was the amount of your original award? \$2500
- b. How was it spent? The full budget went towards the salary of the project's Research Assistant, Emilie Anne Brancato.
- c. If you have any funds remaining, describe your plans to make use of them. N/A

### **Conference Presentations and/or publications based on the project:**

The resource guide will be posted on the EDC website for all members to access. The Principal and Co-investigator(s) will submit a proposal for a conference presentation at EDC 2015.