

Playing catch up: establishing a SoTL network at a large English university [abstract only]

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Valuing SoTL is essential to improving and innovating our teaching and learning (T&L) opportunities. Basing our pedagogy on evidence informed enquiry and then disseminating this within and beyond our university gives staff and students confidence that we are delivering on our ambitions to deliver gold-standard T&L (Office for Students 2023)

In this paper we reframe the five principles of 'good SoTL', as outlined by Felton (2013) with relevance to a 'new to SoTL' institution who is aiming to gradually build confidence with pedagogic enquiry to improve student experience and outcomes.

The theme of making connections between faculty development, teacher practice and student learning is central to our paper. We will explore the early benefits to teaching practice and student learning through the establishment of our new institutional SoTL Network.

We would like to extend our insights from the English HE sector (see Minocha & Collins 2023) and learn from a wider European SoTL community. In return, this paper will provide specific benefits for the future development and growth of the EUROSOTL community. Our emerging insights into establishing SoTL suggest how to engage future members who may still be building their confidence with T&L enquiry.

Our intention is to share our journey so far through a paper presentation. We will encourage questions and feedback from fellow academics on how we might further advance our ambitions, and to give 'food for thought' for others who are in a similar position to where we found ourselves when starting out.