

# A NEW APPROACH TO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## L2L: LIBRARY STAFF LEARNING TO SUPPORT LEARNERS LEARNING

### BACKGROUND

L2L was a two year project (2016 - 2018) funded by the National Forum through its **Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund** (<https://www.teachingandlearning.ie/>) looking at the *Professional Development Framework for all Staff who Teach in Higher Education* through the lens of library staff to see how it could support our ongoing professional development needs

The project was a collaboration of three libraries from the Technological Higher Education sector in Ireland:



We wanted to test the usability of the *Professional Development Framework* as a professional development tool for library staff and in doing so to examine more widely what Professional Development means to library staff.

This involved asking questions such as:

- How can we embed and sustain good professional development practices?
- How are our roles as library professionals evolving?
- What is the value of the Self in Professional Development?
- Does professional identity matter?
- Are we teachers and/or library Staff?
- What is our role in the context of our organisations?
- How do we ensure our users get the most out of our services?
- What is the impact of our practices on our users and how can we incorporate their feedback in a meaningful way in any changes we make?

### WHAT IS THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK?

The National Forum for the enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Ireland developed an inclusive professional development framework for all staff who teach in higher education. It aims to be *career-long, self-managed, value-based* and to include all types of learning activities

The Domains or themes of the Professional Development Framework are:

- **Domain 1** - Personal Development: The 'Self' in Teaching and Learning
- **Domain 2** - Professional Identity, Values and Development in Teaching and Learning
- **Domain 3** - Professional Communication and Dialogue in Teaching and Learning
- **Domain 4** - Professional Knowledge and Skills in Teaching and Learning
- **Domain 5** - Personal and Professional Digital Capacity in Teaching and Learning

### L2L IN NUMBERS



PARTICIPANTS CAME FROM LIBRARIES IN THE EDUCATION AND PUBLIC SECTOR FROM ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY



Library Staff at our New Initiatives Seminar 08/11/2018



### What participants said about the project!

A "practical" product that can be implemented to enhance professional development - *Early Career Librarian*

L2L is a great example of people with different areas of expertise sharing their knowledge and passion with others - *Library Assistant*

L2L has real potential to revitalize the library teaching and learning community globally and catalyze similar transformations in other countries - *Professor Shelia Corral*

### WHAT DID WE DO?

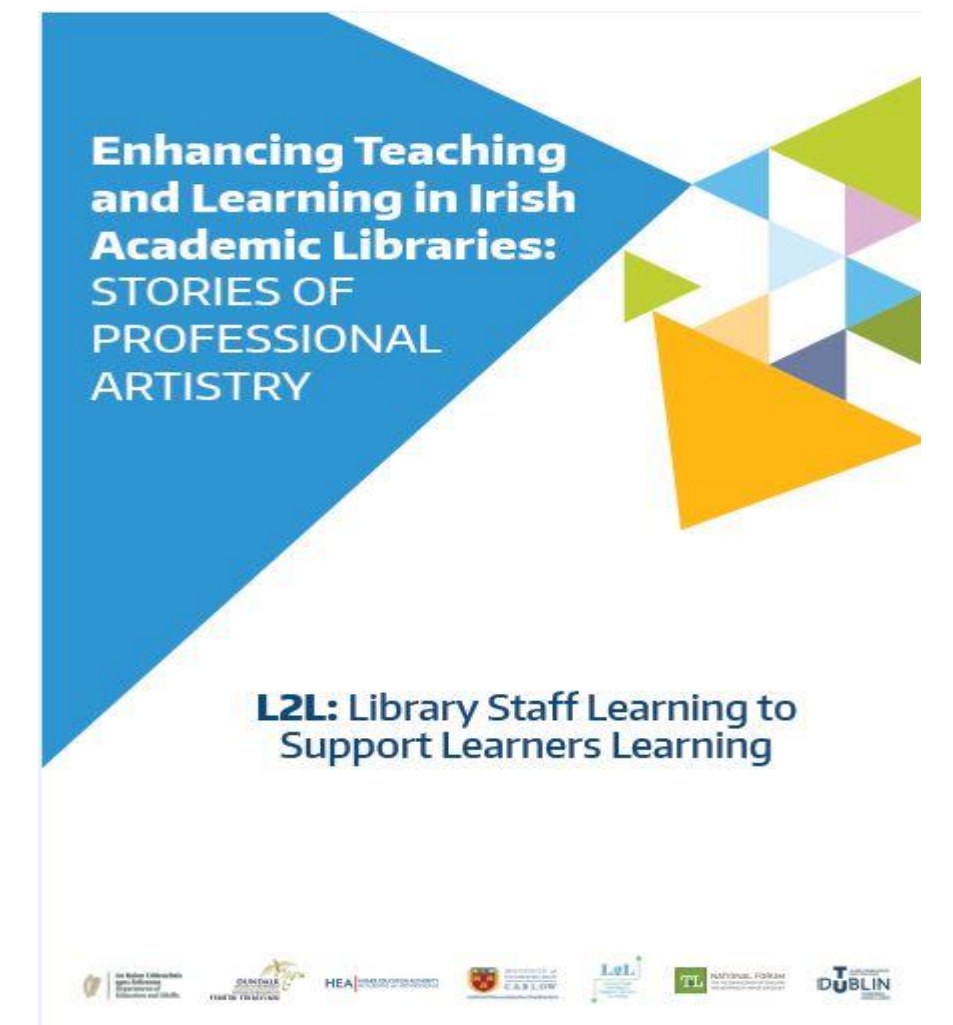
#### WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS

Over the two years of the project, the following series of seminars were held in Dublin, Dundalk and Carlow. Library staff from across all sectors were invited to attend, participate learn about new library initiatives and reflect on their role and identity in libraries and the wider academic sector.



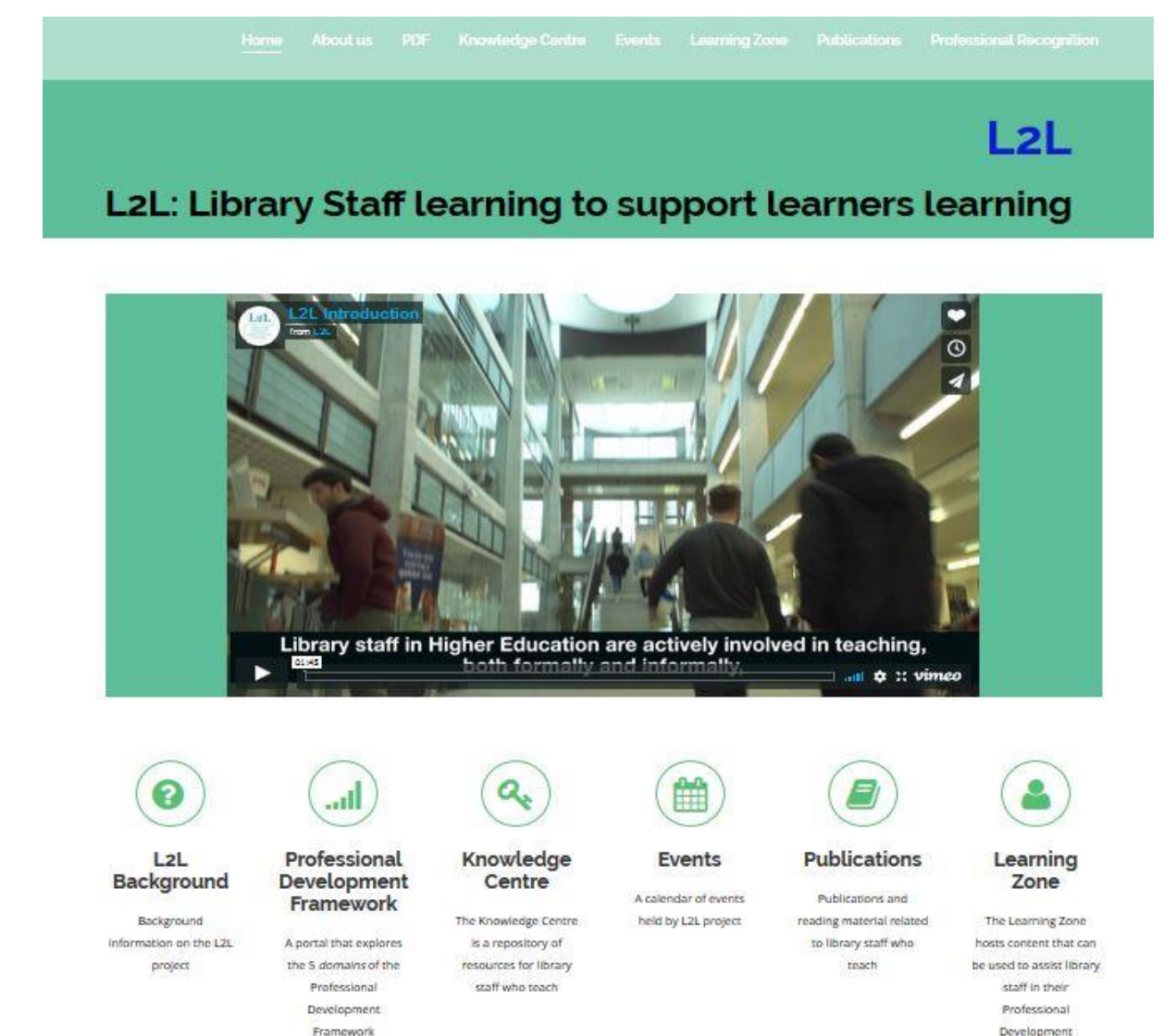
#### WE PUBLISHED A BOOK

Titled *"Enhancing Teaching and Learning in Irish Academic Libraries: Stories of Professional Artistry"*, participants in the project share their personal experiences of engaging with the PDF and how it has led them to reflect on their own library practice. Insights and reflections from other library users are also included.



#### WE CREATED A WEBSITE

We created the website [www.L2L.ie](http://www.L2L.ie) to encourage and facilitate engagement with the PDF. It contains a repository of resources and tools that should be useful to staff in exploring the framework and also in thinking about professional development more widely.



We would love to hear about your thoughts and experiences with the Professional Development Framework. Please feel free to contact us at any of the following.  
[www.l2l.ie](http://www.l2l.ie)  
[librariansL2L@gmail.com](mailto:librariansL2L@gmail.com)  
[Facebook.com/librariansL2L](https://www.facebook.com/librariansL2L)  
[Twitter.com/librariansL2L](https://twitter.com/librariansL2L)