



July 10, 2023

Thomas J. Tobin
127 Presidents Drive
State College PA 16803

Hello,

One of my co-workers had an opportunity to hear Dr. Tobin speak during a webinar offered by Contact North. She was so impressed with the speaker and the content of the webinar, that she recommended that I consider Dr. Tobin for an upcoming event on our campus.

The Universal Design for Learning (UDL) committee was tasked with finding several speakers for a speaker series that we would offer from May 29 – June 2, 2023, during Canada's National AccessAbility Week. Dr. Tobin was one of the individuals that we approached. From the first contact to the final presentation, we were not disappointed. Dr. Tobin is incredibly professional. He was courteous in all of our conversations while planning the events, and genuinely enthusiastic about our UDL efforts. Once we had confirmed him as a speaker for the series, he took the time to reach out to many faculty and staff at Saskatchewan Polytechnic to determine how his presentation could best meet our needs. He also allowed us to review his materials well in advance of the session to ensure that they would work for our context. One thing that really impressed me was that he took the time to integrate our brand into his PowerPoints, and used images that would resonate with our audience.

On the day of the presentation, we had a diverse audience of faculty and staff attend the session. The session went very smoothly, and Dr. Tobin incorporated many UDL principles into his session including the use of captioning, descriptions of images, and how he addressed the activities that he used. The faculty and staff benefited from his expertise, and many were eager to have the opportunity to work with him again – this time in a longer session. We sought feedback following the session, and many of our participants took the opportunity to share how beneficial they thought the session was.

We feel very lucky to have had Dr. Tobin work with us and share his expertise on UDL. He has helped us gain some momentum on UDL on our campuses, while also promoting and raising awareness of this important topic.

Thank you kindly,

Tasha Maddison
Educational Developer
Instructional and Leadership Development Centre
Saskatchewan Polytechnic

