Microsoft continues to develop its Teams platform and this month’s updates include more control for staff in online meetings. If you are delivering an online session you will now be able to mute people, or remove them from the meeting, and these functions are accessed via the participants menu. You should also be able to download a list of class attendees. For this functionality to work correctly, all staff delivering a session MUST be identified correctly in the timetable system, so please check that timetabling records for your sessions are up to date. Breakout rooms are currently under development by Microsoft and we are expecting these to be rolled out in December. Where there are any changes to Teams functionality, please check MYMO for updated “how to” guides.
Remember the induction resource...?

Our new students are reaching the point in term when they need to recall some of the information we pointed them towards during induction. We thought it might be useful to circulate the contents of the resource module on Brightspace as a list so that when students ask for a spot of help you can point them in the right direction. A more detailed list can be found here:

Students are being warned against submitting their work to free online “plagiarism checking services” which harvest student work and sell it on to contract cheating websites.

Their work becomes available for purchase by other students through such websites and this causes a 100% match when the legitimate author submits it for assessment. Cheryl Reynolds, who designed the University’s academic integrity resource, added that in such cases, burden of proof that the work is their own then rests with the original author, and it can be difficult to demonstrate that it is their own work.

“Academic integrity continues to be a vital concern and the Brightspace module and quiz, an essential part of the University’s strategy to combat misconduct, has been updated this year to steer students away from online plagiarism checkers,” Cheryl said.

“The challenges are constantly shifting as ‘misconduct entrepreneurs’ develop new ways to exploit students. We review this activity annually to better inform our students, and therefore it is vital that they repeat the module and quiz at the start of every academic year.

“Completion rates this year are currently low and we are asking all our academic colleagues to steer their students towards completing it over the next few weeks. We need to protect our students from this kind of exploitation and helping them avoid the misery that comes with a case of academic misconduct.”

If there is anything you would like us to include in TL Matters please email r.stoker@hud.ac.uk or k.j.baron@hud.ac.uk