UNE L&T Symposium 2026 – Presentation Synopsis- Gal Winter

1. Title of Presentation:
Keeping It Real: Building Community from the Digital Classroom to the Public

2. Presenter(s) Name(s) and Affiliation(s):
Gal winter - UNE

3. Main Takeaways:
Summarise the key points of your presentation in 2 concise sentences (each sentence should be 40 words or less). Focus on highlighting the most important aspects of your work.
Takeaway 1: Integrating "old school" experiential learning with digital delivery transforms isolated remote study into a vibrant, collaborative community where students actively share hands-on scientific discoveries

Takeaway 2: This internal success in fostering tangible student connections provides a scalable blueprint for extending university science into broader public impact through initiatives like Gal's Kitchen Culture.

4. Application in Educational Contexts:
Clearly outline how your presentation is practically significant in educational contexts, specifically in tertiary education. Address the following areas if applicable:

Teaching Methods:
- Incorporate "at-home" laboratory experiences that translate digital theory into tangible, physical contexts, allowing remote students to engage with rigorous experiential learning directly within their own environments.
- Blend interactive online delivery with traditional "old school" hands-on techniques to shift the instructional focus from passive content consumption toward active, context-driven scientific discovery.

Student Engagement:
Foster organic peer-to-peer connection by using shared hands-on tasks to break down digital isolation, encouraging students to actively exchange their personal scientific findings and discoveries.

Curriculum Development:
- Embed " at-home" modules directly into syllabus structures to ensure the curriculum bridges the gap between digital theory and physical, real-world application for remote learners.
- Design course pathways that intentionally scale from internal laboratory mastery to broader public health literacy, using student discoveries as a foundation for community-facing science communication.

6. Weakness and Area for Future Research:

Identify one weakness or limitation of your work. Briefly describe how this could be addressed in future research (2 sentences of 40 words or less each)

Weakness: A primary limitation is the investment in coordination and potential for unequal access to the physical resources or stable home environments required to conduct the "at-home" laboratory experiments effectively.

Future Research: Future studies should investigate digital simulation integration or low-cost, universally accessible kits to ensure equitable participation for students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds or restricted living spaces.