

UNRAVELLING THE UNCONFERENCE

Name, D.O.B. place of origin, founder(s)	Logo and link to online presence	"Mantra"	Origin / reason / context	Community; Offspring; 'Reach'; Current governance	Format and time frame of unconference event
Open Space Technology 1984 Monterey, CA, USA <i>Harrison Owen</i>	openspaceworld.org	"It is what it is" The Law of Two Feet	Founder's realisation of the value of the coffee break, combined with reluctance to organise another 'traditional' conference, led to OST.	Community: wide variety of disciplines. <i>Indirect offspring - BarCamp, THATcamp, TeachMeet, Edcamp, Learning On A Beach (LOB).</i> Reach - worldwide. Open and free for all to use.	1. Opening Circle 2. Facilitator's explanation of principles and law 3. Multiple conversations happening in the same big space, several discussion sessions across time 4. Closing Circle <i>Lasts between half a day and three days.</i>
World Café 1995 Mill Valley, CA, USA <i>Juanita Brown, David Isaacs</i>	theworldcafe.com 	conversational leadership	It rained on a gathering planned for outdoors; attendees split into small groups at tables indoors.	Community: wide variety of disciplines. <i>Offspring: learning and scholarship programme, Knowledge Café.</i> Reach: worldwide, cross sector. Official World Cafe Foundation.	Attendees take part in small group round tables, each with a different question to discuss; answers are harvested and shared to the large group; seven key design principles. <i>Lasts between half a day and three days.</i>
PechaKucha 2003 Tokyo, Japan <i>Astrid Klein, Mark Dytham</i>	pechakucha.org 	Each PechaKucha is "a box of chocolates."	Designed to curb architects' tendency to talk on forever when presenting.	Community: creative groups worldwide. Reach: over 900 cities. Organized by "handshake" agreement.	Presentations to attendees: 20 slides, automatically forwarding after 20 seconds. <i>Lasts less than two hours.</i>
Barcamp August 2005 Palo Alto, CA, USA <i>Çelik, Messina, King, Smith, Mullenweg</i>	barcamp.org 	NO SPECTATORS, ONLY PARTICIPANTS	An open version of Foo Camp (invitation only, participant led gathering of techies).	Community: IT professionals. <i>Offspring: EdCamp, RE barcamp, 3Dcamp, and many more in the business world.</i> Open and free for all to use.	Volunteers host, and organise by consensus, a variety of sessions in a given time frame; session schedule suggestions posted centrally on whiteboard 'grid'. <i>Lasts up to a full day.</i>
TeachMeet May 2006 Edinburgh, Scotland <i>Ewan McIntosh, David Noble, John Johnson</i>	teachmeet.pbworks.com 	<i>teachers sharing ideas with teachers</i>	Three bloggers, meeting face to face at a conference, arranged to meet again and share ideas in a social setting.	Community: Teachers. <i>Offspring: ResearchMeet, LeadMeet, MakerMeet...</i> Reach: worldwide adhoc groups. Open and free for all to use.	Mixture of presentations and conversations (2 min. 'Nano', 7 min 'Micro', 15 min 'Soap Box'; random order; round tables), followed by 'TeachEat'. <i>Lasts a couple of hours.</i>
Ignite December 2006 Seattle, WA, USA <i>Brady Forrest, Bre Pettis</i>	www.ignitetalks.io 	EVERYONE SPEAKS <i>"Enlighten us, but make it quick"</i>	A get together for self-confessed geeks.	Community: mainly 'geeks' but many others have adopted the format. Reach: 350+ teams worldwide. A Public Benefits Corporation.	Rapid fire presentation from each attendee (20 slides, 15 seconds each = 5 mins per presenter). <i>Lasts less than two hours.</i>
ThatCamp , 2008 Fairfax, VA, USA George Mason University	thatcamp.org 	It's collaborative: there are no spectators.	Same model as BarCamp, for humanities. THAT stands for The Humanities and Technology.	Community: humanists and technologists. Reach - worldwide. Open source under a GNU licence; 7-person Council governed by community-produced Charter.	"Volunteers host, and organise by consensus, a variety of sessions in a given time frame; session schedule suggestions posted centrally on whiteboard 'grid'." Session themes: Talk / Teach / Make / Play. <i>Lasts a day usually, perhaps two or three days.</i>
Edcamp 2010 Philadelphia, PA, USA <i>Borota, Callahan, Hertz, Rowe, Jarrett, Leanness, Miles, Ritzius, Ferguson, Sivick, Swanson</i>	edcamp.org 	Connect. Empower. Lead.	A group of educators adopting the un-conference protocol inspired by Barcamp.	Community: Educators. Reach: concentrated in the USA, but worldwide occurrences. Over 700 recorded to date. A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit.	Attendees organise by consensus, a variety of sessions in a given time frame; session schedule suggestions posted centrally on whiteboard 'grid'. Lasts usually one full day.
CampEd 2012 Yorkshire, England <i>Helen Daykin, Bill Lord & Dughall McCormick</i>	facebook.com/CampEdsite 	<i>"glorying in shambolic amateurism"</i>	Established as antidote to corporate education conference. (Inspired by John Davitt's Learning On A Beach, Mayo, Ireland, 2011).	Community: Educators, tweeters, their families and friends. <i>Offspring: CampEd South.</i> Owned by the CampEd community.	Friends, educators, families agree a weekend venue. 'Pop-up' learning sessions run by participants. Provisions and camp-fire conversations are shared. May last anything up to 3 days.
Pedagoo 2015 Scotland <i>Collective of teachers</i>	pedagoo.org 	for teachers, by teachers	Born on Twitter as an online community of teachers supporting, encouraging and sharing innovative and effective approaches to T&L, Pedagoo now meets 'in real life' (IRL).	Community: Educators. Reach: Scotland.. Pedagoo is a not for profit run by a small team of educators in spare time. Offspring: Pedagoo Muckle, Wee Pedagoo.	Usually Saturday. Format similar to TeachMeet, but each engagement is longer to allow for conversation on each topic. Online engagement via Twitter continues 24/7.
Gasta 2014 Ireland Tom Farrelly	Gasta Blog	5-4-3-2-1-GASTA!	Oriningated at ILTA conference. Lighting 5-min talk in the style of Pecha Kucha or Ignite, but with active audience participation	Community: Educators. Reach: Ireland, UK, Canada	Held as a lightning session within a larger conference, the MC involves the audience in the countdown and timing of the presentations
BrewEd 2017 Sheffield, England Ed Finch & Daryn Simon-Egan	BrewedEd 	Bringing Pints and Pedagogy to the People since 2017	Established to enable teachers to talk about teaching and learn new things in a setting that is relaxed and social.	Community: Educators. Reach: UK	Usually Saturday from mid-morning til late afternoon in a room in a pub. Preesentations and talk each talk approx. half hour. Usually include a lighthearted team quiz.