



General Faculties Council
TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting #29, February 25, 2016, 2:00 p.m.

A167

Voting Members

Lynn Taylor, Co-Chair
Ebba Kurz, Academic Co-Chair
Isabelle Barrette-Ng
Laura Koltutsky
Mark Konnert
Jennifer Lock
Vera Parlac
Scott Radford
Emma Read – arrived during Item 4 (which was handled first on the agenda)

Non-Voting Members

Susan Barker
Nancy Chick
Kent Donlevy
Natasha Kenny
Charlene Mages
D'Arcy Norman

Regrets

Jessica Ayala
Jerome Beaudoin
Andrew Estefan
Mike Foley
Tina Gabriele
Stephan Guscott
David Hansen
Tom Hickerson
Erica McLachlan
Jackie Sieppert
Alice Woolley

Guests

Brent Beatty, Manager, University of Calgary Bookstore – present for Item 5
Elizabeth Cannon, President – present for Item 4

Secretary

Susan Belcher

Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:23 p.m. when quorum was achieved.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the February 25, 2016 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Remarks of the Co-Chair and Academic Co-Chair

The Co-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- Ken MacMillan, History, has received a 3M National Teaching Fellowship
- The Taylor Institute (TI) continues to offer services and activities for instructors, including initiatives relating to learning technologies
- A project is underway to create resources for instructors relating to formative assessment. These resources will be available through the TI by September 2016.

The Academic Co-Chair made no remarks.

3. Approval of January 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting held on January 21, 2016 be approved.

Carried

4. Energizing the Eyes High Strategic Direction

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Elizabeth Cannon, President, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent reported that the *Eyes High* strategic direction was approved in 2011 as a five-year plan set to end during the University's anniversary year in 2016. A consultation process has been initiated to set the principles, timeline, and scope for a process to reenergize the *Eyes High* strategic direction by the Winter term of 2017. Feedback is being sought from General Faculties Council (GFC), the Board of Governors (BG), many GFC and BG committees, and other stakeholder groups. It will be important (when writing the new strategic direction) to emphasise the University's recent successes, and to consider current post-secondary trends and the current economic climate.
- The Committee agreed that *Eyes High* is an inspiring and successful strategic vision, and supported the proposal to build on *Eyes High* rather than starting over with a completely new vision
- In response to a comment, the proponent confirmed that there are *Eyes High* metrics relating to the student experience, and that students will be included during the consultation process
- The Committee expressed the perception that the community associates *Eyes High* primarily with research, and it was suggested that the *Eyes High* document should be carefully written to be inclusive of a variety of success measures and aspirations in teaching, student experience, and research. The proponent noted that *Eyes High* does include a broad range of both research and teaching priorities, and remarked that the Committee will have opportunities to offer feedback on the strategy document.
- The Committee considered possible names for the reenergized *Eyes High* strategic direction, and expressed that changing the name significantly is not desirable

- The proponent requested that any additional feedback at this stage of the process be sent to her directly

5. Update on Bookstore Initiatives for Learning Resources

Brent Beatty, Manager of the University of Calgary Bookstore, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter reported that the Bookstore provides a number of learning resources options for students, including new book sales, a used book program, a book rental program, and a variety of digital products. The Bookstore sells materials from its physical location in MacEwan Hall and through its website. Statistics show that students are buying fewer materials, and that textbook rental is a rapidly growing area.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - E-books are usually not permanent purchases because most have an expiration date
 - When open educational resources (OER) are made available online, it is possible to restrict printing or to add an expiry date to the material. Access to OER materials can be controlled by using hidden links.
 - The Bookstore's used book program includes the shipping of used books between a network of institutions in order to meet demands
 - The Bookstore is exploring options to integrate with PeopleSoft, such as to provide a link from a student's course scheduling module to the Bookstore's related book options and costs
 - Many institutions are partnered with the company Campus eBookstore to provide for-purchase digital materials and OER to students
 - The Bookstore's business model for course materials is cost recovery
 - It can take six weeks for requested books to arrive from a publisher
- The Committee suggested that:
 - The Bookstore should continue to take steps to ensure that instructors and students are aware of the various course materials options
 - The Bookstore could release the required course materials list earlier, even if it is not complete
- The Co-Chair requested that Mr. Beatty write a summary of the Bookstore's course materials programs so that this can be incorporated into the Committee's Learning Materials Costs to Students Memo

6. Review of Learning Materials Costs to Students Memo

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Lynn Taylor, Co-Chair, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Co-Chair asked the Committee to review its Learning Materials Costs to Students Memo so that this can be approved at the next meeting and sent to instructors next month

- The Committee discussed the popularity of the Library's reserve course materials, and the process for acquiring these
- In response to a question, it was reported that the Library keeps statistics on the use of electronic materials, in order to determine if additional licenses or copies are needed

7. Consultation on Assessment of Institutional Climate for Teaching and Learning

Lynn Taylor, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent remarked that this item relates to the Committee's previous discussion of formative assessment. The proponent then gave a presentation on the dimensions of institutional teaching culture, including raising awareness of teaching and prioritizing effective teaching, teacher development, engaging students in the constructive assessment of teaching, building institutional infrastructure to support teaching, and aligning institutional policies to foster quality teaching. The proponent reviewed a number of sample indicators relating to a strong and positive teaching culture, including:
 - The institution has a strategic plan that positions teaching as a priority, and senior administrators convey this message
 - Evidence of teaching effectiveness is considered in the evaluation of a faculty member's job performance
 - There are rewards for effective teaching through programs such as teaching awards
 - Research on teaching is valued
 - Students are encouraged to provide feedback to their teachers, and the end of term and throughout their courses
 - Educators are encouraged to reflect on the effectiveness of their teaching, and to spend time developing their teaching
 - Teaching spaces are designed to facilitate learning
 - There are leaders to help educators develop as teachers, and to access a variety of professional development opportunities
- In response to a question, the proponent indicated that the term "leaders" includes formal leaders such as Associate Deans, but also includes informal leaders such as teaching award winners and members of the University's Teaching Academy
- The Committee discussed, and expressed support for, a survey of the campus community to gauge how teaching is valued. It was agreed that this would be useful in growing a strong teaching culture, if the survey were used formatively rather than for assessment. It was suggested that the survey could be conducted on a three year cycle.
- The Committee suggested that the analysis of teaching practices could be incorporated into Departments' regular curriculum review work

8. Report of the University Chair in Teaching and Learning

Nancy Chick, University Chair in Teaching and Learning and the Academic Director of the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, presented this item.

Highlights:

- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) activities are taking place, including the establishment of writing groups and a journal club, and the offering of workshops
- Fifty-eight applications to the University Teaching and Learning Grant program were received by the February deadline. Applicants are from across the campus community. Grants will be given in Lesson Study, Practice, and SoTL Individual/Collaborative streams. The Lesson Study grant stream is new, and it is anticipated that there will be more applications for these grants next year. Four adjudication committees will meet, and the grant recipients will be announced in due course.
- The next issue of *Teaching & Learning Inquiry*, an open access journal of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, will be published on March 1, 2016

9. Students' Union Report

There was no report.

10. Graduate Students' Association Report

There was no report.

11. Learning Technologies Report

D'Arcy Norman, Manager of the Technology Integration Group, presented this item.

Highlights:

- Installations within the TI building are underway, and it is expected that technology training will be offered in the building beginning on April 11, 2016
- Applications to teach in the TI building will be accepted starting in March
- A Learning Technologies and Environment Operations Specialist has been hired, and a formal announcement of this appointment will be made in May

12. Educational Development Unit Report

Natasha Kenny, Director of the Educational Development Unit (EDU), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The annual University of Calgary Conference on Postsecondary Learning and Teaching will take place May 10-11, 2016. The theme is Exploring Creativity in Postsecondary Learning and Teaching. Eighty-nine proposals were received by the deadline, which is indicative of the conference's growth and success.
- Ten academic staff members have been chosen as recipients in the University of Calgary Teaching Scholars Program. A formal announcement of the funding recipients will be made in March.

- The adjudication of the University of Calgary Teaching Awards has been completed, and the recipients will be announced in March. There were seventy-one applications to the awards program this year.

13. Approved 2016-2017 GFC and GFC Standing Committees Meeting Schedule

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

14. Other Business

There was no other business.

15. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Teaching and Learning Committee adjourn the February 25, 2016 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.