

**General Faculties Council**  
**TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE**  
Approved Minutes

Meeting #30, March 24, 2016, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

A167

***Voting Members***

Lynn Taylor, Co-Chair  
Ebba Kurz, Academic Co-Chair  
Jessica Ayala  
Isabelle Barrette-Ng  
Mike Foley  
Stephan Guscott  
Laura Koltutsky  
Mark Konnert  
Jennifer Lock  
Scott Radford

***Non-Voting Members***

Susan Barker – left after Item 6  
Kent Donlevy  
Tom Hickerson – arrived during Item 5  
Natasha Kenny  
Charlene Magnes  
D'Arcy Norman

***Regrets***

Jerome Beaudoin  
Nancy Chick  
Andrew Estefan  
Tina Gabriele  
David Hansen  
Erica McLachlan  
Vera Parlac  
Emma Read  
Jackie Sieppert  
Alice Woolley

***Guests***

Nahum Arguera, National Survey of Student Engagement Research Assistant – present for Item 6  
Angelique Saweczko, Registrar – present for Item 5

***Observer***

Danica MacDonald, Vice-President (Student Life), Graduate Students' Association

***Secretary***

Susan Belcher

***Scribe***

Elizabeth Sjogren

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The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

The Co-Chair reported that Item 8 (Report of the University Chair in Teaching and Learning) is removed

from the Agenda as Nancy Chick has sent regrets for this meeting.

The Agenda for the March 24, 2016 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting was approved by consensus, with the reported revision.

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

The Co-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- There is a competition underway to fill the position of Director of the College of Discovery, Creativity and Innovation, and a proposal to establish two enquiry-based courses for the College is moving through the approval process
- The first ten recipients of the Teaching Scholars funding program were announced on March 22, 2016

The Academic Co-Chair remarked that the educational leadership initiatives that will be funded through the Teaching Scholars program will be exciting and impactful.

## **3. Approval of February 25, 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 February 25, 2016 be approved.

**Carried**

## **4. Revisions to Learning Materials Costs to Students Memo**

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

The Co-Chair reported that the version of the Learning Materials Costs to Students Memo being presented to the Committee for approval incorporates some revisions relating to the Library and the University Bookstore. There were no questions.

### **Moved/Seconded**

That the Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) approve the Learning Materials Costs to Students Memo, in the form provided to the TLC, and authorize that the memo be sent out under the name of the TLC.

**Carried**

## **5. Open Studies Review**

Susan Barker, Vice-Provost (Student Experience), and Angelique Saweczko, Registrar, presented this item.

**Highlights:**

- The presenters noted that an Open Studies student is “*A student who is permitted to register in credit courses, but who is not admitted to a program leading to a degree, diploma or certificate*”, and reported that a review of Open Studies occurred because of the need for better regulations, services, processes, and communication
- The presenters reviewed a variety of Open Studies demographic data, and highlighted the results of surveys of Open Studies students and advisors
- The presenters reported that a report including recommendations for changes is nearly finalised, and reviewed some of the draft recommendations with the Committee related to admission, orientation, administration, and student support
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - Open Studies students pay the same tuition as other students
  - A student cannot graduate from the University as an Open Studies student. Shadowing a degree program is discouraged as there is no guarantee that an Open Studies student will be admitted into a degree program. Clear regulations, and consistent enforcement of these, should prevent practices such as program shadowing.
  - Open Studies students who are identified as eligible to apply for admission to degree programs in the Faculties of Arts and Science are encouraged to do so by Enrolment Services
- It was suggested that the University Calendar should clearly state that participation in Open Studies does not guarantee admission into a degree program
- The presenters invited additional feedback on this subject to be sent directly to them, and reported that, after a full consultation period, any proposals for changes requiring approval will move through the governance system as appropriate

**6. Follow-up Relating to National Survey of Student Engagement**

Documentation for this item was circulated at the meeting. Nahum Arguera, National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Research Assistant, and Natasha Kenny, Director of the Educational Development Unit (EDU), presented this item.

**Highlights:**

- The presenters reported that a student engagement initiatives mapping project has been initiated. After the third NSSE retreat, to be held on April 27, 2016, a resource setting out planned student engagement initiatives at the course, program, Faculty, and institutional levels will be made available.
- The presenters reported that the University has studied the institution’s 2014 NSSE results and the U15 NSSE Comparator Data. The University has also focussed on two questions from the 2015 NSSE Exit Survey:
  1. How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at the University of Calgary?
  2. If you could start over again would you attend the University of Calgary?

- The presenters highlighted some of the institutional-level NSSE data, and in particular pointed out areas in which the University performs well (e.g. collaborative learning) and areas needing improvement (e.g. advising, interactions with faculty, sense of community, and opportunities for practical learning)
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - The NSSE does not ask students to identify whether they live in residence or commute to the campus
  - Communication is key, as students frequently expressed that they wished they had known about learning and social opportunities earlier
  - It is intended that the student engagement initiatives mapping resource document, handed out at the meeting, will also be broken down to show Faculty-specific information
- The Committee suggested that the student engagement initiatives mapping resource document should integrate Students' Union (SU) initiatives as well, and remarked that the document is useful, and will also serve to identify similar or duplicate initiatives

#### **7. Feedback Relating to Energizing the Eyes High Strategic Direction**

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

Highlights:

- The Co-Chair led the TLC in a follow-up discussion relating to the draft documents “Energizing the *Eyes High* Strategy: The Path Forward” and “*Eyes High* Strategic Oversight Committee Terms of Reference”
- During discussion, the Committee remarked that:
  - There is support for renewing the current *Eyes High* strategy rather than starting over with an entirely new strategy. Aspects of the *Eyes High* strategy could be updated and fine-tuned, and some aspects could receive more focus. Positive NSSE data could be woven into the strategy.
  - Students should be included in the development of the renewed strategy
  - It is important to connect students and staff with the community, and to increase alumni engagement with students. This would serve to improve the student experience and to increase community pride in the University.
  - It is important to communicate the University's research and teaching achievements, and the University's connections to the community
- The Co-Chair reported that she would provide a summary of the Committee's discussion to the President

#### **9. Students' Union Report**

Stephan Guscott, Students' Union (SU) Vice-President (Academic), presented this item.

**Highlights:**

- An event will be held on April 20, 2016 to celebrate this year's SU Teaching Excellence Award recipients
- The SU election has been held, and the elected students will take office on May 2, 2016
- The SU is actively campaigning to have the provincial post-secondary mental health funding renewed

**10. Graduate Students' Association Report**

There was no report.

**11. Learning Technologies Report**

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

**Highlights:**

- The TIG will be moving to the new Taylor Institute (TI) building next week, and the building will officially open on April 18, 2016. Members of the teaching and learning community will be invited to an open house event on April 22, 2016, and there will be public tours in the coming weeks.
- Instructors can now apply to teach in the TI building for the Fall 2016 and/or Winter 2017 terms. Information on this is available on the TI webpage.

**12. Educational Development Unit Report**

Natasha Kenny, Director of the EDU, presented this item.

**Highlights:**

- The EDU's move to the new TI building will also soon be underway
- The 2016 University of Calgary Teaching Awards recipients will be recognized at an event to be held on March 29
- Open Classroom week, during which past teaching award winners open their classrooms to observers in order to share their teaching practices, was held March 8-17, 2016
- The 2016 University of Calgary Conference on Post-secondary Learning and Teaching will be held May 10-11, 2016. The theme is "Exploring Creativity", and there will be keynote addresses and approximately 80 interactive sessions. Registration is still open, and people are encouraged to attend and/or volunteer.

**13. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**14. Adjournment**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Teaching and Learning Committee adjourn the March 24, 2016 meeting.

**Carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.