

General Faculties Council
TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting 49
January 24, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

A167

Voting Members

Leslie Reid, Co-Chair
Dawn Johnston, Academic Co-Chair
Wendy Benoit
Sandra Goldsworthy
Kent Hecker
Stephanie Hladik
Ian Holloway
Jennifer Lock – left during Item 7
Leeanne Morrow – arrived during Item 4
Nickie Nikolaou
Elena Rangelova
Jessica Revington

Non-Voting Members

Susan Barker
Natasha Kenny
D’Arcy Norman
Mary-Jo Romaniuk
Kristal Turner

Secretary

Susan Belcher

Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

Regrets

Fabiola Aparicio-Ting
Jessica Ayala
Suzanne Curtin
Patti Dyjur
D’Arcy Moynaugh
Vera Parlac
David Paskevich
Leighton Wilks
Daniel Wulff

Guests

Michael Hart, Vice-Provost (Indigenous Engagement) – present for Item 4
Andrew Goddard, Legal Counsel – present for Item 5

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

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the January 24, 2019 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair reported that, in response to a poll of the Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) and Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC) members regarding the future scheduling of the Committees' meetings, it has been decided to switch the TLC meetings to Tuesdays and the RSC meetings to Thursdays starting in the 2020-2021 meeting year.

The Academic Co-Chair remarked that the new recipients of the University's Teaching and Learning Grants were recently announced, and these include inspiring projects and partnerships.

3. Approval of the December 13, 2018 Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Teaching and Learning Committee meeting held on December 13, 2018 be approved.

Carried

4. Indigenous Strategy ii'taa'poh'to'p Engagement

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Michael Hart presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter opened his presentation with the acknowledgement: *I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III. I would also like to note that the University of Calgary is situated on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River, and that the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is "Moh'kins'tsis", which we now call the City of Calgary.* The presenter discussed the purpose and meaning of the acknowledgement statement with the Committee, and noted that the implementation of the Indigenous Strategy/ii'taa'poh'to'p will involve deep learning and growth of relationships.
- The presenter then updated the Committee on the implementation of the Indigenous Strategy/ii'taa'poh'to'p to date, including information about the advisory circle, implementation committee and its subcommittees, and current initiatives
- Discussion included:
 - Curriculum will evolve across disciplines over time to incorporate Indigenous knowledge and methodologies
 - While there may be well-intentioned efforts to protect the time of Indigenous faculty members, these persons should be allowed to decide for themselves which events and service opportunities they wish to participate in. Mentoring should be offered to new Indigenous faculty members.

- That it is possible to obtain a temporary license in order to hold a smudging ceremony in a University space
- That Financial Services has a process in place for paying cash honorariums to Indigenous individuals

5. Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources and Information Policy

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Andrew Goddard presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter reported that the draft Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources and Information Policy consolidates three existing University policies (the Acceptable Use of Information Assets Policy, Electronic Communications Policy, and Acceptable Use of Personal Information in Enterprise Information Systems Policy) and aligns with the University's Information Assets Management Policy
- The Committee discussed that:
 - The Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources and Information Policy relates to other work that the Committee has recently done, such as discussing the Commitment to the Acceptable Use of Desire2Learn and the Operating Standard for Media Recording of Students in Learning Spaces
 - Clarity is needed around when signed disclosure agreements are required
 - A fulsome definition of 'electronic resources' is necessary as this phrase is used in a variety of ways throughout the University (e.g. by Libraries and Cultural Resources)
 - The scope of the policy must be definitively set out, for reasons such as because 'electronic resources' is a broad phrase and because the ucalgary email addresses remain active after a student becomes an alumnus. It was noted that it will be challenging to enforce the policy in some cases, such as with respect to alumni, and the proponent agreed to consider these issues.
- The presenter reported that, once the Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources and Information Policy is approved, a related operating standard will be developed

6. Supplementary Course Fees

Susan Barker presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Committee received a presentation on supplementary course fees at the University, including what these include, the various approval authorities, and the process to follow to have a supplementary course fee approved
- The presenter remarked that students and instructors have a lot of misconceptions and uncertainties with respect to supplementary course fees, and provided examples using Reddit posts of instances when students were seeking information on tuition differentials and website-based assignment platforms with access costs

- Discussion included that:
 - Mandatory supplementary course fees may be necessary for the successful completion of a course (e.g. field course accommodation and travel)
 - It is ideal for students to receive course outlines in advance of a course starting, so that there is clear understanding of whether there will be any required or optional supplementary course fees
 - Libraries and Cultural Resources makes textbooks and associated materials available so that students do not necessarily have to purchase these
 - Students can purchase some items (e.g. lab coats) from any source
 - The recently-approved Bill 19: An Act to Improve the Affordability and Accessibility of Post-secondary Education might provide additional clarity with respect to supplementary course fees

7. NSSE Action Plans and Updates

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Leslie Reid, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter updated the Committee on the development of units' National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) action plans and responses related to the 2017 NSSE data, and reported that the NSSE Support Team has been offering a series of workshops to aid in these efforts
- The presenter reported that a NSSE action report is being prepared and will be shared with the Committee at a future meeting
- Discussion included that:
 - Some units weave NSSE information into their curriculum reviews
 - Units' NSSE action plans should be shared with students so that they can see the level of details in these, including initiatives, participants, and timelines
 - Consultations should include discussion of elements that have received positive NSSE feedback, and not just focus on elements that are identified as lacking or in need of improvement
- The presenter remarked that the NSSE will be executed again in 2020

8. Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning Report

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Natasha Kenny, Senior Director of the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning (TI), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The TI receives mid-term and final reports from the University Teaching and Learning Grants recipients, and the information in these will be shared with the Committee in order to communicate the influence of successful efforts

- The TI currently has an interim Director of the Educational Development Unit and this position is open. In response to a question, it was confirmed that if a position is filled through secondment, the Faculty will receive funds to hire a replacement.
- The TI is now open until 9:00 p.m. on weekdays, and will be open on weekends beginning in the Fall 2019 term

9. Students' Union Report

Jessica Revington, Students' Union (SU) representative to the Committee, presented this item.

Highlights:

- Bill 19: An Act to Improve the Affordability and Accessibility of Post-secondary Education will come into effect on February 1, 2019, and the SU is working to understand this legislation. The SU will collaborate with the University to implement any changes as a result of Bill 19.
- The SU will again launch its Get Out the Vote campaign, which encourages students to participate in provincial and federal elections. The campaign will ramp up once the election dates are known.
- The candidates' campaign posters for the 2019 SU General Election will start to go up on February 25, 2019 and the election results will be available on March 7, 2019
- The deadline to nominate candidates for the SU's Teaching Excellence Awards is February 22, 2019

10. Graduate Students' Association Report

Stephanie Hladik, Graduate Students' Association (GSA) representative to the Committee, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The GSA's Vice-President (Academic) has been speaking at Faculty Council meetings about the importance of graduate student contract compliance
- The GSA continues to participate in the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) renewal process, which involves looking at both the USRI form and the implementation process

11. Identification of Take-aways

The Committee members highlighted their take-aways from the meeting, including:

- The importance of thinking about the meaning of the traditional territories acknowledgement statement and considering when this should be read, and how Indigenous content and practices can be incorporated into curriculum and University activities
- That information about mandatory and optional supplementary fees, and the approval processes for these, should be communicated to colleagues, and that consideration should be given to the additional expenditures faced by students, such as the cost of textbooks
- That additional feedback on the draft Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources and Information

Policy can be sent to the proponent

12. Other Business

The Co-Chair reported that the Committee's USRI Working Group, established by the Committee at its November 22, 2018 meeting, has begun meeting and will report to the Committee in due course.

13. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Teaching and Learning Committee adjourn the January 24, 2019 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Susan Belcher
University Secretary