



General Faculties Council
TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting 70

November 16, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

Voting Members

Leslie Reid, Co-Chair
Amy Warren, Academic Co-Chair
Fabiola Aparicio-Ting – arrived during Item 4
Wendy Benoit
William Bridel
Barbara Brown – arrived during Item 4
Tracey Clancy
Heather Ganshorn
Yani Jazayeri – left during Item 5
Jennifer Markides
Fabian Neuhaus – arrived during Item 1
Hieu Ngo – arrived during Item 2
Evaristus Oshionebo – left during Item 5
Alex Paquette – arrived during Item 4
Renzo Pereyra
Leighton Wilks
Jason Wiens

Regrets

Susan Barker
Diane Gereluk
Mary-Jo Romaniuk

Guests

Gabrielle Lindstrom, Educational Development Consultant for Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning – present for Item 5
Erin O’Toole, Specialist, Research Awards and Chairs – present for Item 4
Malinda Smith, Vice-Provost (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) – present for Item 4
Robert Thompson, Associate Vice-President (Research) – present for Item 4

Non-Voting Members

Michelle Drefs – arrived during Item 1
Natasha Kenny
Barb McCutcheon
Brenda McDermott
D’Arcy Norman
Trevor Poffenroth
Justine Wheeler

Secretary

Cherie Tutt

Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

Staff

Shumaila Faisal – left during Item 6

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the November 16, 2021 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair welcomed Jennifer Markides on this occasion of her first Committee meeting.

The Academic Co-Chair expressed optimism for a good meeting today, with several important discussion items.

3. Approval of the October 19, 2021 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 October 19, 2021 be approved.

Carried

4. Pilot Plan: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) in Research and Teaching Awards

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Leslie Reid, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), Malinda Smith, Vice-Provost (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion), Robert Thompson, Associate Vice-President (Research), and Erin O'Toole, Specialist, Research Awards and Chairs, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents gave a presentation on the Pilot Plan for EDI in Research and Teaching Awards, specifically reporting that the Plan:
 - Is a joint initiative of the Vice-Provost (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion), Associate Vice-President (Research), and Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), and that the Plan was developed by a diverse drafting committee
 - Is structured to identify barriers to prizes and awards and to address recommended practices through the nomination process, and is organized into two broad categories: EDI in talent identification and the applicant pool, and EDI in selection methods
 - Will be complemented by a two-page guide that will summarize the barriers to prizes and awards, and will set out recommended practices that can be followed by nominators, nominees and selection committees
 - Is now launched and feedback will be collected. Simultaneous to the piloting of the Plan, a broad consultation process is underway.
- Discussion included that:
 - It is important to identify the University's shortcomings in the processes relating to equality in prizes and awards
 - The University needs to have a more diverse population, which will lead to more diversity in prizes and awards
 - Issues such as unfairness and bias are not unique to the prizes and awards system, and impact career progression
 - Awareness of opportunities for prizes and awards could be increased by communication

efforts within the Faculties

- Service is a component of academic work that is rarely recognized, and perhaps some awards in this area could be created
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - An EDI Strategic Plan is in development for the University
 - The drafting committee studied the practices at other institutions when developing the Plan
- The Co-Chair invited the Committee to provide any additional feedback to the proponents through a link available on the Office of EDI webpage

5. Indigenous Guiding Principles for Curriculum Development Projects

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Gabrielle Lindstrom, Educational Development Consultant for Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning (TI), and Natasha Kenny, Senior Director of the TI, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents gave a presentation on Ethical Space of Engagement in Curriculum Development Processes: Indigenous Guiding Principles for Curriculum Development Projects, which is intended to be used to help support, guide and inform curriculum review and development projects across the University. The presenters highlighted that:
 - A key recommendation in the Indigenous Strategy, *ii'taa'poh'to'p*, is to decolonize and transform the University's academic programs and curriculum
 - The four guiding principles set out the core values that should be followed when undertaking curriculum review and development projects. These are linked to Indigenous ways of knowing, being, connecting and doing, and include thoughtful self-reflection, ethical relationship building, and respectful dialogue
 - It is necessary to develop transformative, parallel processes and that Indigenous lifeways should be reflected in the curriculum
 - The Circle of Advisors was consulted during the development of the guiding principles, and they will be consulted again in December for additional feedback and Indigenous validation
- Discussion included that:
 - Everyone at the University can contribute to meaningful change. Transformation will happen as the capacity for dialogue and the confidence of individuals increase.
 - The Educational Development Consultant for Indigenous Ways of Knowing can assist Faculties
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - The guiding principles provide guiding questions for self-reflection during the curriculum review and development process, and how Faculties operationalize this will differ
 - The Office of Indigenous Engagement can advise on the protocols for connecting with Elders

6. COVID-19 Updates (Round Table)

The Academic Co-Chair presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Academic Co-Chair remarked that this is an opportunity to discuss the impacts of COVID-19 on teaching and learning and other matters of significance at this time
- Discussion included:
 - There is a noticeable shift from emergency remote teaching to moving forward with more permanent blended and online models
 - The majority of students wish to maintain at least some online components in their learning
 - The Winter 2022 semester will present some new challenges, including that some students will be delisted from courses as a result of the vaccine mandate, and some challenges have not even been identified yet
 - During the COVID-19 period, students have missed out on normal classroom experiences such as being taught by guest speakers
 - There is awareness that students and instructors are feeling pressure at this time, and some Faculties have introduced flexibilities such as extraordinary opportunities for deadline extensions

7. Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) Working Group Update

The Co-Chair reported that the Committee has discussed the USRI Working Group's recommendations report twice (at the Committee's October 8 and October 19, 2021 meetings) and some revisions have been made in response to the feedback received. Next steps will include a UToday story, a survey that will be available on the USRI Review webpage, consultations with the Students' Union and Graduate Students' Association at their council meetings, discussion at a General Faculties Council (GFC) meeting, further discussion by the Committee, and eventual approval by the GFC.

8. Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning Report

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Natasha Kenny presented this item.

Highlights:

- The 2022 University of Calgary Teaching Awards program has launched, with a new award category for Indigenous Ways of Knowing added. The nominations deadline has been moved to March 3, 2022 in response to requests for this. Members of the Committee are asked to help raise awareness of this program, and the nomination and teaching dossier resources that are available on the TI webpage.
- The TI has launched an online module that enables critical reflection on course experiences, including Experiential Learning courses
- Adjudicators are needed for the Teaching and Learning Grants and Teaching Scholars programs. This is an opportunity for persons to gain educational leadership experience, as training and support is provided, and members of the Committee are asked to raise awareness of this.

9. Graduate Students' Association Report

Alex Paquette, Graduate Students' Association (GSA) representative on the Committee, presented this item.

Highlights:

- Academic Integrity Week was held October 18-22, 2021 and the GSA was involved in several successful events including an Instagram Live event on October 21
- The TI is offering a Teaching Assistant Workshop Series, with one workshop to be offered each month starting in the Winter 2022 term
- The Homophobia in the Hallways event will be held November 17, 2021, and members of the Committee are welcome to attend
- The Academic Horror Stories event was held on October 28, 2021 and was well received
- A teaching dossier workshop for graduate students is in development
- The next Peer Beyond Graduate Research Conference will be held February 23-25, 2022, and will take place online

10. Students' Union Report

Renzo Pereyra, Students' Union (SU) representative on the Committee, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Open Educational Resources (OER) Working Group includes elected officials and students at large, and will produce a report to inform the SU's future OER advocacy and adoption efforts
- The Fall 2021 SU Teaching Excellence Awards program received over 500 nominations
- The Undergraduate Research Symposium awards gala will be held next week
- The SU also participated in Academic Integrity Week, including an online trivia game and informational booths in MacEwan Hall and the Taylor Family Digital Library

11. Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Teaching and Learning Committee adjourn the November 16, 2021 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.