



General Faculties Council
TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting 72

January 18, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

Voting Members

Leslie Reid, Co-Chair
Fabiola Aparicio-Ting – left during Item 5
Wendy Benoit
William Bridel
Barbara Brown
Tracey Clancy
Heather Ganshorn
Dianne Gereluk – arrived during Item 4
Yani Jazayeri
Jennifer Markides
Hieu Ngo – arrived during Item 3
Evaristus Oshionebo
Alex Paquette
Leighton Wilks – left during Item 5
Jason Wiens

Non-Voting Members

Susan Barker – arrived during Item 2, left during Item 5
Michelle Drefs – arrived during Item 4, left during Item 5
Natasha Kenny
Barb McCutcheon
Brenda McDermott
D’Arcy Norman
Trevor Poffenroth – arrived during Item 3, left during Item 5
Justine Wheeler

Secretary

Cherie Tutt – left during Item 6

Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

Regrets

Fabian Neuhaus
Renzo Pereyra
Mary-Jo Romaniuk
Amy Warren, Academic Co-Chair

Guests

Marica Cassis, Department of Classics and Religion, Faculty of Arts – present for Item 4
Erin Kaipainen, Associate Director, Experiential and Work-Integrated Learning, Taylor Institute – present for Item 5
Raegan Pankoff, Administrative Coordinator, Taylor Institute – present for Item 5
Jewel Spangler, Department of History, Faculty of Arts – present for Item 4
Lisa Stowe, Director of Experiential Education, Taylor Institute – present for Item 5

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the January 18, 2022 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Remarks of the Co-Chair

The Co-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- Members were welcomed to the Committee's first meeting of 2022. The Co-Chair expressed that she is looking forward to the items that will be coming to the Committee during the remainder of this academic year, including curriculum reviews, Experiential Learning updates, and roundtable discussions.
- The Committee's Academic Co-Chair is not able to attend today's meeting

3. Approval of the December 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Teaching and Learning Committee meeting held on December 14, 2021 be approved.

Carried

4. Curriculum Review Reports, Faculty of Arts – Department of Classics and Religion and Department of History

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Marica Cassis, Jewel Spangler, and Jason Wiens, Associate Dean, Teaching and Learning and Student Engagement, Faculty of Arts, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Committee received presentations on the recent curriculum review reports of the Department of Classics and Religion and Department of History. The presenters provided overviews of the processes followed, the findings made, and some highlights of the action plans of their respective reviews.
- Discussion included:
 - Curriculum mapping is valuable as an engaging and holistically thoughtful process in addition to the resultant product of coordinated courses
 - Some students do not like group course work. There are tools, such as social annotation programs and platform chat functions, that can aid in fostering effective group interactions.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - Some faculty were hesitant to participate in the curriculum reviews, in part from concern that there could be negative assessment of some courses, but trust was built and a majority of the faculty in both Departments became engaged in the processes
 - During the curriculum review process, it was determined that the Department of Classics and Religion needs to present itself externally as being a unit that engages in the anthropological and critical study of religions and not teaching religion or simply studying texts
 - Persons in the Department of Classics and Religion are studying the residential schools

burial sites, but care is being taken to ensure no overstep into the role of the Indigenous community in reacting to this. The Department has an Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee that is preparing a statement on how the Department can help in studying current matters.

- The Department of Classics and Religion will be holding a retreat after the pandemic is over, in order to further its progress after the 2014 merger of the Departments of Religious Studies and Greek and Roman Studies
- The Department of Classics and Religion attempts to incorporate writing in some form into all of its courses
- The Department of History has developed a course structure that ladders the development of skills and capacities, and this was achieved by coming to a foundational understanding of the Department's purpose

5. Developing a Community Report for Experiential Learning at UCalgary

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Lisa Stowe, Erin Kaipainen, and Raegan Penkoff presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported that the Experiential Learning (EL) Plan has been in place for two years, and that a team is putting together a report to the University community that will both describe what has been accomplished and what is planned
- Discussion included:
 - Barriers to EL include scheduling issues, geographical barriers, and a lack of accommodations for students with disabilities
 - The scalability of EL programs can be a challenge, and it can take time to develop strong EL programs
 - During this period of reduced institutional resources it can be difficult to operate EL programs, however there are some funding opportunities available
 - It is desired for all students to have at least one EL opportunity, but at this time it is necessary to consider where EL opportunities are most needed
 - It is optimal if an EL experience fits well with the learning outcomes of a student's program and a student's interests
 - The EL opportunities will be different for course-based versus thesis-based graduate programs
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - Graduate students cannot count a Teaching Assistant or Research Assistant experience as a Work-Integrated-Learning (WIL) form of EL because this must be part of an academic program
 - EL must include a component of self-reflection

6. Round Table – Emerging Issues and Initiatives in Teaching and Learning

The Committee was given an opportunity to talk about current matters relating to teaching and learning, and discussion included that:

- Some members of the University community are communicating that they do not wish to return to in-person learning after Reading Week, and would prefer to remain online for the entirety of the Winter term
- Decisions about how the remainder of the Winter term will be delivered and assessed are needed, as this impacts instructor preparation, where students live, how students study, etc.
- Students attending online classes and exams cannot be required to turn on their cameras

7. Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning Report

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

Highlights:

- The TI's Learning Technology and Design unit can help instructors to adopt learning technologies and to design online courses and assessments. The TI also has self-directed online resources for development in this area.
- The organisers of the 2022 University of Calgary Conference on Postsecondary Learning and Teaching, *Moving Forward in a Good Way: Nurturing the Spirit of Learning in Postsecondary Education*, are receiving guidance from elders Reg and Rose Crowshoe. The call for proposals closes on January 24, 2022. Information about the conference is available on the TI website.
- Nominations for the University of Calgary Teaching Awards are due on March 3, 2022

8. Graduate Students' Association Report

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

Highlights:

- The TI's workshops for Teaching Assistants are appreciated
- The GSA's website contains information about the GSA's excellence awards for Teaching Assistants
- The Peer Beyond Graduate Research Conference has an interactive virtual format this year, using the Gather Town platform. The platform provides a main stage for talks, social gathering areas, and poster halls.

9. Students' Union Report

There was no report.

10. Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Teaching and Learning Committee adjourn the January 18, 2022 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Cherie Tutt
Meeting Secretary