General Faculties Council
Teaching and Learning Committee
Approved Minutes

Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 2:00 p.m.
Meeting #98   A167/Zoom

Voting Members
Wendy Benoit, Co-Chair
Barbara Brown, Academic Co-Chair
Sarah Adams
Jacob Amengor – arrived during Item 1
Todd Anderson
Fabiola Aparicio-Ting
Mark Bauer
Tracey Clancy
Gabriela Dziegielewska
Sarah Eaton
Dawn Johnston
Maliheh Mansouri*
Christine Martineau
Hieu Ngo* – arrived during Item 1
Dan Wilson*

Non-Voting Members
Vui Kien Liau
D'Arcy Norman
Morgan Vanek

Meeting Secretary
Michelle Speta

Scribe
Vanessa Kozielec

Regrets
Rebecca Archer
Cari Din
Kim Johnston
Derritt Mason
Fabian Neuhaus
Trevor Poffenroth
Mary-Jo Romaniuk
Naomi Tanner
Verity Turpin
Leighton Wilks

Guests
Robin Arseneault*, Teaching and Learning Project Coordinator, Taylor Institute – present for Item 8
Melissa Boyce, Associate Dean (Academic), Faculty of Arts – present for Items 3 and 4
Erin Kaipainen, Director, Experiential & Work-Integrated Learning, Taylor Institute – present for Item 5
Kim McIntyre*, Director, Campus Architecture, Facilities Development – present for Item 8
Ben McKay, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology – present for Item 3
Tania Smith, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Media and Film – present for Item 4
Kelly Kay Spurlock, Analyst, Planning and Reviews, Provost's Office – present for Items 3 and 4
Samantha Thrift, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Media and Film – present for Item 4

*Attended virtually

Secretary's Note: In accordance with the General Faculties Council (GFC) Bylaws Section 8.2, the motion box and "Carried" denotation serves as the entry in the minutes that the Chair of the meeting declared the motion carried.

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

1. **Meeting Opening**

    1.1. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved/Seconded
That the Agenda for the May 13, 2025 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.
Carried

    1.2. **Traditional Land Acknowledgement**

    The Academic Co-Chair presented a Traditional Land Acknowledgement.

    1.3. **Remarks of the Co-Chairs**

    The Academic Co-Chair welcomed Gabriela Dziegielewska, Students' Union (SU) Vice-President Academic, and Jacob Amengor, Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Vice-President (Academic), on this occasion of their first meeting as members of the Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC).

    The Co-Chair reported that this is the last meeting for Barbara Brown as the Academic Co-Chair of the TLC and expressed appreciation to her for her service.

2. **Approval of the April 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded
That the Minutes of the Teaching and Learning Committee meeting held on April 15, 2025 be approved.
Carried

Christine Martineau abstained.

3. **Curriculum Review – Anthropology and Archaeology (Arts)**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Melissa Boyce, Associate Dean (Academic), and Ben McKay, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, both from the Faculty of Arts, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters gave a presentation reporting on the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology's curriculum review, including describing the guiding questions of the curriculum review, the data collection and analysis methods, the key findings, and the major action items. The presenters remarked that Anthropology and Archaeology are still disciplinarily siloed within the merged Department, and this is a hinderance to collegial operations and these disciplines and their programs should become more fully integrated.

- In response to questions, it was reported that:

  o During the curriculum review there were focus groups for graduate students, and the graduate students, many of whom are Teaching Assistants, had valuable feedback about the undergraduate programs.

  o There is strong alignment of courses, field schools, and research with Indigenous Ways of Knowing.

4. Curriculum Review – Communication, Media and Film (Arts)

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Melissa Boyce, Associate Dean (Academic), Tania Smith, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Media and Film, and Samantha Thrift, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Media and Film, all from the Faculty of Arts, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters summarised the Department of Communication, Media and Film's curriculum review, highlighting the programs and offerings, the pathways for students, the curriculum review process and guiding questions, the curriculum review's resulting action items, and current initiatives.

- The presenters indicated that the Department is interested in hearing how other departments are integrating artificial intelligence (AI) literacy into course outcomes and how others are dealing with AI and academic integrity.

- There were no questions.

5. Experiential Learning Framework

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Wendy Benoit, Interim Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), Erin Kaipainen, Director, Experiential & Work-Integrated Learning, Taylor Institute (TI), and Christine Martineau, Educational Development Consultant – Indigenous Ways of Knowing, TI, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reminded the Committee that the University's Experiential Learning (EL) Plan and associated EL Framework sunset in December 2025. The presenters then gave a presentation describing the EL Plan and Framework's relation to *ii'taa'poh'to'p* (the Indigenous Strategy) and the University's *Ahead of Tomorrow* strategic plan; that EL involves an authentic experience, intentional design, and critical reflection; and that EL is a continuum including classroom, lab, workplace, and community environments that includes knowledge and skills, research, innovation, and career focuses. The presenters reported that a revised EL definition and framework will come through governance in Fall 2025, but that a new EL Plan will not be developed as EL is included within the *Ahead of Tomorrow* strategic plan.

- In response to questions, it was reported that:

  o EL can be reciprocal, and not just one-way learning.

  o It was identified that the EL Plan and Framework approved in 2020 did not sufficiently incorporate Indigenous Ways of Knowing, and it was determined that the University must update its thinking and communicating about EL in relation to this.

6. **Teaching and Learning Updates and Emerging Issues (Roundtable)**

The Committee was given an opportunity to discuss matters currently impacting teaching and learning, and it was shared that the Faculty of Science is contemplating a model that divides lectures and labs into separate course registration pieces, with credit assigned to each.

7. **Annual Committee Performance Review**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The Co-Chairs presented this item.

Highlights:

- Members expressed:
  - Appreciation to the Secretariat for their support of the Committee's work, including the timely provision of meeting documents for review and the availability of a hybrid option for attendance.
  - That it is valuable to hear and discuss the curriculum review reports as part of the Committee's business.
  - Happiness with the collegial discussions during the Committee's meetings, and that space is provided in the Committee's agendas to allow for conversations about teaching and learning to happen.

8. **Learning Spaces Team Update**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Wendy Benoit, Interim Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), Kim McIntyre, Director, Campus Architecture, Facilities Development, and Robin Arseneault, Teaching and Learning Project Coordinator, TI, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported that:
  - The Learning Spaces Team was established in 2023 to bring together people from across portfolios to address learning spaces, and that the team includes representatives from Campus Planning, Campus Architecture, Facilities, Information Technologies, and the TI.
  - A second Learning Spaces Community Conversation event was recently held, which yielded some key takeaways that the team has incorporated into a report and will consider in the coming months.
- There were no questions.

9. **Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning Report**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. D'Arcy Norman, Associate Director, Learning Technologies and Design, TI, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The 2025 Conference on Postsecondary Learning and Teaching was held April 28-30, 2025. There were 339 registrants, and 80 interactive sessions were held including three keynote addresses. The theme of the conference was future-focused opportunities relating to student assessment.

- Soroush Sabbaghan, Werklund School of Education, has been named as the first Educational Leader in Residence (GenAI). His work will include considering the ethical use of AI in teaching and learning and advancing the AI practices, standards, and pedagogies at the University.

- The TI will be offering a variety of courses and workshops through the Spring and Summer semesters. The programming is available to academic staff, postdoctoral scholars, and graduate students, and information is available on the TI website.

- The TI and Mount Royal University's Mokakiiks Centre for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) are collaborating to host a SoTL professional development event. The event will be held May 23, 2025 at the TI, and will include workshops and a networking lunch. Information and registration can be accessed on the TI website.

- Teaching Days 2025 will be held August 19-21, 2025 in the TI. The goal of the event is to energise the University's teachers in advance of the Fall semester through a variety of sessions, and the event will include a teaching symposium for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars on the first day. Information and a registration link will be provided in an upcoming TI newsletter.

10. Graduate Students' Association Report

Jacob Amengor, GSA member of the Committee, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The 2025 Peer Beyond Graduate Research Conference was successfully held February 19-20, 2025 and for the first time conference proceedings were published on April 29, 2025. Relating to this, the GSA is going to offer a series of workshops including about effective abstract writing and publishing research.

11. Students' Union Report

Gabriela Dziegielewska, SU member of the Committee, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The SU's Teaching Excellence Awards celebration event was held April 16, 2025. The SU received nearly 1,000 nominations of instructors from across the University, with 77 shortlisted to the classroom visits phase, and ultimately 41 winners chosen.

12. Other Business

There was no other business.

13. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Teaching and Learning Committee adjourn the May 13, 2025 meeting.

Carried

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

Michelle Speta
Meeting Secretary