

TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

April 9, 2026 at 3pm – 5pm

University Boardroom A341

IN ATTENDANCE:

Michelle Yeo	GFC Academic Staff Member, CHAIR and Director, ADC
Karim Dharamsi	Vice-Provost, Academic, VICE-CHAIR
Meagan Bowler	Dean, University Library
Kelly Williams-Whitt	Dean Representative
Nancy Ogden	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for teaching and learning
Neil Brigden	GFC Academic Staff Member (Business, Communication Studies & Aviation)
Sarah Hamilton	GFC Academic Staff Member (Health, Community and Education)
Nick Strzalkowski	GFC Academic Staff Member (Science and Technology)
Erik Christiansen	Academic Staff Member (University Library)
Christina Lovestone	Continuing Education Representative
Kristin Fulton	Student Affairs Representative
Meekena Erkin	Student Representative

Resources

Adam Cave	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for teaching and learning
Giuliana Harvey	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for teaching and learning
Melanie Rathburn	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for teaching and learning
Sheena Dyer	Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

Guests

Michelle Hu	CIO and AVP, Information Technology Services
Nicky Renault	Director, Student Support and Vice-Chair, Generative AI in Teaching & Learning (AI) Working Group
Kimberly Smith	Research and Planning Consultant, Office of Institutional Research and Planning
Linda Van der Zande	Director, Office of the Provost

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Andrew Goodmanson	Manager, Learning Technologies (ADC)
Lavinia Moldovan	GFC Academic Staff Member (Arts)
Celine Dixon	Student Representative

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00PM.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the April 9, 2026 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from January 22, 2026

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the January 22, 2026 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried**2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Generative Artificial Intelligence in Teaching & Learning (AI) Working Group

An overview of the draft Guidelines for AI Use in the Classroom was provided and members were asked to provide feedback.

Discussion:

- Comments were shared in support of the draft guidelines.
- In response to a question, AI Literacy has been defined in the Framework for Responsible AI at MRU document.
- Some areas may be amended to strengthen the language used, such as expanding upon student responsibility.
- A difference between the language used in these guidelines and the AI Framework document was considered with respect to using institutionally approved AI tools and platforms when working with confidential data and information (“strongly encouraged” vs. “required”), ways it could be monitored, and if it also applies to Guideline 7. The working group will take this under consideration when revisiting the language used in these guidelines.

N. Renault left the meeting.

4. Annual Review of Syllabus Guidelines**4.1. Recommendation from ASC – Syllabus Guidelines**

TLC reviewed the Syllabus Guidelines. It was also brought forward that the Academic Standards Committee (ASC) recommended that the Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) give consideration to including best practice guidance in the Syllabus Guidelines about putting assignment due dates on course outlines.

Discussion:

- It was explained that when the guidelines were originally created, it was determined to include only items directly tied to policies rather than a collection of best practices.
- Discussion focused on whether or not the suggestion from ASC could be added into the Guidelines in the “Recommended” column for non-mandatory items. It was shared that the concern raised at ASC that led to this recommendation does not seem to be a wide-spread issue. It is normal practice to assign due dates and communicate them to students.
- Key points considered included:
 - Pedagogical concerns regarding increased prescriptiveness in Syllabus Guidelines.

- Having individual Faculties discuss this for their own course outlines.
- If added to the non-prescriptive "Recommended" column to maintain faculty flexibility, there is a potential risk that faculty could then remove due dates, which would have a negative impact to students.
- The Vice-Provost and Vice/Associate Deans (Vice-Provost Academic Advisory Group) will consider the suggestions and concerns raised in this discussion when they conduct their next review of the Syllabus Guidelines.

It was reminded that the Syllabus Guidelines are now annually reviewed by the Vice-Provost Academic Advisory Group for policy updates ahead of the next academic year. Changes will be reviewed by TLC, as required. Their latest update removed reference to the Text Matching Software Policy that was recently rescinded.

5. TLC Committee Charter Review

The TLC Committee Charter was reviewed. No changes were recommended.

6. Draft TLC 2025-26 Annual Report

The draft TLC 2025-26 Annual Report was reviewed. The Chair will finalize the report and circulate it to members by email for feedback in advance of submission to the GFC May meeting.

7. Updates and Reports:

7.1. AI Steering Group

M. Bowler, AI Steering Group Chair, gave an overview of the following documents provided for information:

- the approved Framework for Responsible AI at MRU.
- draft Recommendations for AI-Related Capacity Building, Infrastructure, and Operational Planning.
- Preliminary web presence: draft landing page for AI@MRU.

7.2. Course Affordability Tracker Update

M. Erkin, SAMRU VP Academic, shared an update on the Course Affordability Tracker that incorporated feedback from the January 22 TLC discussions. It is set to be launched in a few weeks on the SAMRU website.

Kimberley Smith and Linda Van der Zande joined the meeting.

8. Presentations & Discussion: ELSC and GESC

8.1. Experiential Learning Steering Committee (ELSC)

Karim Dharamsi presented the Experiential Learning Framework - Draft Recommendations (ELSC Phase 2).

Members were asked to review the Experiential Learning Framework - Draft Recommendations (Google Site), as prepared by the Experiential Learning Steering Committee (ELSC) and can provide feedback to K. Dharamsi. A consultation survey link will also be shared.

8.2. General Education Steering Committee (GESC)

A brief update was shared on the Draft Liberal Education Model (GESC Phase 2).

Members were asked to review the Draft Liberal Education Model (Google Site), as prepared by the General Education Steering Committee (GESC) and can provide feedback to K. Dharamsi. A consultation survey link will also be shared.

Discussion:

- Clarification on where the language used for the various Areas came from.
 - The proposed Area names were broadened out to be more inclusive from the CAQC guidelines/handbook, and may still be revised.
- Preliminary questions were responded to for additional information and clarification of areas of the framework.

9. **For Information:**

The following items were provided for information:

9.1. Committee Chair Report

A copy of the previous Committee Chair's Report to GFC was provided for information.

9.2. TLC Meeting Schedule 2026-27

9.3. Draft TLC Membership List 2026-27

10. **New Business**

There was no new business.

11. **Adjournment 4:30PM**