

## TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

January 22, 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
Lavinia Moldovan	GFC Academic Staff Member (Arts)
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
Celine Dixon	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

Tala Abu Hayyaneh	President, SAMRU ( <i>virtual</i> )
Michelle Dow	Director, Access & Inclusion Services
Michelle Hu	AVP & Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Services

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

Andrew Goodmanson	Manager, Learning Technologies (ADC)
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The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00PM.

**1. Approval of Agenda*****Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Agenda for the January 22, 2026 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.

***Motion carried*****2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

## 2.1. Minutes from November 13, 2025

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Minutes of the November 13, 2025 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. Academic Accommodations Working Group Update**

M. Dow gave an overview of the recommendations the Academic Accommodations Working Group have developed for students and faculty, and responded to questions.

*M. Dow left the meeting.*

**4. Policy Rescindment: Matching Software Policy and Procedures**

K. Dharamsi gave an overview of the context and background provided in the meeting package for the rescindment of the Matching Software Policy and Procedures..

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Teaching and Learning Committee recommend for rescindment the Matching Software Policy and Procedures.

Discussion:

- There would be no changes to course outlines if the policy is rescinded
- Clarified various information provided in the Briefing Note about Guidelines (currently Appendix A in the policy)
- A possible future TLC discussion on matching software was noted

***Motion carried***

**5. Student Academic Needs Survey: Review & Refresh**

K. Fulton presented the Student Academic Needs Survey results to support a review and refresh of the survey using a “Look Back to Look Forward” framework. The discussion focused on identifying data gaps to better support MRU learners and refining the next survey to place greater emphasis on critical thinking, group work, and help-seeking

*Tala Abu Hayyaneh joined the meeting.*

**6. SAMRU Initiative on Open Access Resources and Zero Textbook Cost**

M. Erkin presented SAMRU’s initiative on open access resources and zero textbook cost. Feedback and questions were discussed on the following areas:

- Clarification of the coordination of this initiative with the Library
- Communication of the initiative
- Reducing and tracking textbook costs
- OER opportunities and challenges
- Consideration of alternative terminology, such as “textbook cost transparency”

*Tala Abu Hayyaneh left the meeting.*

**7. Updates and Reports:**

7.1. Experiential Learning Steering Committee (ELSC)

No update.

7.2. General Education Steering Committee (GESC)

A brief update was shared about the upcoming university-wide working group to assist with the next phase of the committee's work.

7.3. AI Steering Group

A brief update was shared following the feedback from GFC.

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

A brief overview of the sub-working groups was shared.

7.5. Committee Chair Report

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

**8. New Business**

There was no new business.

**9. Adjournment 4:50PM**