

TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

March 23, 2023 at 3pm – 5pm

University Boardroom A341

IN ATTENDANCE:

Christian Cook, GFC Academic Staff Member, CHAIR

Meagan Bowler, Dean, University Library

Shane Gannon, Associate Dean responsible for teaching and learning

Cheryl Techentin, GFC Academic Staff Member (Arts)

Brenda Lang, GFC Academic Staff Member (Business and Communication Studies) *(via Google Meet)*

Gaye Warthe, GFC Academic Staff Member (Health, Community and Education)

Luciano Santos, Academic Staff Member (Teaching & Learning) *(via Google Meet)*

Katharine Barrette, Academic Staff Member (University Library)

Robin Randall, Student Affairs Representative

Resources

Melanie Rathburn, Associate Dean responsible for teaching and learning

Sheena Jensen, Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Yasmin Ahmed, Student Representative

Haroon Chehade, Student Representative

Kenna Olsen, Designate for Vice-Provost, Academic, VICE-CHAIR

Kelly Williams-Whitt, Dean Representative

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:03p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda *(motion)*

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the March 23, 2023 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from February 23, 2023 *(motion)*

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the February 23, 2023 Teaching and Learning Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

The business arising from the minutes are included in the agenda items below.

3. Working Group Updates

3.1. Syllabus Guidelines

3.1.1. Proposed Recommendation re: Artificial Intelligence

In follow-up to the discussion of the “ChatGPT Group” agenda item at the February 23, 2023 TLC meeting, and GFC’s request for TLC to consider how to deal with the emerging issue of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the classroom, the following recommended approach was provided in the meeting package, which included contextual factors considered at the last meeting:

Three main factors of consideration:

- 1. Some instructors want students to use AI to generate content. For this reason, AI cannot be banned.*
- 2. The TLC does not want to duplicate pre-existing policies. We believe the policy in place (Code of Student Academic Policy) remains sufficient.*
- 3. The TLC recognizes that technology will continue to develop, including the creation of software that can identify material generated by AI technologies.*

Given these contextual factors, it was decided that TLC can suggest to GFC that Associate Dean’s remind faculty members of the following Policy statement: “Soliciting, facilitating, or submitting work that is purchased or otherwise acquired from another person or source unless the work is appropriately cited and/or approved by the Instructor such as hiring or subscribing to services to complete academic work;” (Code of Student Academic Policy, D.2.1.5)

If an instructor wishes for students to use AI in the classroom, they must provide approval (preferably in the syllabus). Otherwise, students are prohibited from submitting work generated by AI as their own; if the instructor does not wish students to use such AI, it is recommended that instructors include a statement restricting the use of AI. Instructors can use various technologies that have been developed to detect AI-generated material in order to provide evidence for violating the Code of Student Academic Policy.

The recommended approach was affirmed and TLC agreed that they have met GFC’s request to address the AI matter. The TLC Chair will report back to GFC.

Further discussion took place to clarify how the Syllabus Guidelines are communicated and stored within each Faculty, and how it will be managed when there is turnover with Associate Deans. It was explained that this is the responsibility of the Associate Dean. It was reminded that TLC has it noted in their annual work plan to review the guidelines, and to revisit incorporating it formally into TLC’s Charter during the next Charter review (planned for the May 11 meeting).

- 3.2. Celebrate! Teaching and Learning Event (*May 4, mru.ca/celebrate*)
An update was given on the review of proposals for the event that is underway, and that the event will be a combination of presentations, workshops, and the Distinguished Faculty Awards. Registration will be opening soon. Consideration of the timing of the event will be considered for future years, as there are other events and activities with similar topics occurring around the same time (e.g. University of Calgary's Teaching & Learning event, MRFA Retreat).
- 3.3. Future for Online Teaching Approaches/Strategy
The working group has requested to be dissolved, as the matters of consideration related to this area are being addressed by other places on campus.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Future for Online Teaching Approaches/Strategy working group be disbanded.

Motion carried

Feedback was received that the establishment of working groups should be in response to direction from GFC on matters to be addressed by TLC so there is a work plan/purpose already in place.

4. Committee Chair Report

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

5. Report from the Senior Administrator to the Committee

No report.

6. For Information:

The following items were received for information:

- 6.1. TLC Meeting Schedules 2023-2024 and 2024-2025
- 6.2. Preliminary TLC Membership 2023-2024

7. New Business

Regarding item "3.1.2. Chair's Update on Syllabus Guidelines Recommendations", the status of the outstanding recommendations that GFC approved with the Syllabus Guidelines in May 2021 was questioned, as TLC has not received any updates about whether or not they have all been addressed. It was agreed to send the "*Syllabus Guideline Recommendations – Possible Paths Forward*" document that the previous Vice-Provost, Academic was in progress of addressing back to the GFC Executive Committee to inquire about a status update and to provide advice on addressing the outstanding recommendations.

8. Adjournment 3:52PM