



ADC

YEAR IN REVIEW

2016/17



Academic
Development
Centre



*Catalyzing excellence and innovation in teaching,
learning, and the use of educational technology.*



Message from the Director

The 2016/17 Academic Development Centre (ADC) Year-in-Review document is designed to capture and communicate highlights of Centre offerings to the MRU community. It illustrates the many contributions made by faculty, staff, and students in the ADC to Mount Royal University's important mission of an exceptional undergraduate educational experience. We hope you enjoy and are informed by this overview of last year's activities; we also welcome your questions and comments.

In addition to our Centre's typical work, the faculty and staff of the Centre were focused on planning and preparing for the summer 2017 move to our new location on the second floor of the Riddell Library and Learning Centre (RLLC). We look forward to continuing to serve the Mount Royal teaching and learning community in achieving their professional development goals, in our beautiful new space.

The trust granted us by MRU colleagues, as we work together to ensure the "best possible" learning and development experiences, is very much valued and appreciated.



Theresa Matus

Theresa Matus, MA
Director

FACULTY ORIENTATION & SUPPORT

The ADC offers two faculty orientation programs annually: the New Faculty Support Program (NFSP) for new full-time faculty, both tenure track and limited term, and the Contract Faculty Support Program offered at the beginning of the fall and winter semesters.

These programs are designed to orient new MRU faculty members to best practices in teaching and learning and to provide opportunities for socialization, community building, and professional learning. Tenurable faculty members continue to be supported by the NFSP Professional Learning Community, the Mentorship Program and numerous other programs and services during their pre-tenure period.

The goal of these programs is to contribute toward effective and scholarly teaching and overall success and satisfaction in faculty roles.



22

faculty participated in the
New Faculty Support Program

36

contract faculty participated in the
Contract Faculty Support Program

20

faculty participated in the NFSP
Professional Learning Community

15

mentorship pairs were formed

DROP-IN TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Sandbox

The Sandbox drop-in computer lab helps to increase the effective use of technologies for teaching and learning at Mount Royal. This year, the Sandbox provided 4,417 points of assistance to MRU faculty and instructional staff.

Faculty can also access Bb training online through our Bb Workshops On-Demand portal, which currently features eight online workshops. The site hosted 1761 sessions this year, along with 7723 page views. To access online Bb training, visit our website at: mtroyal.ca/adc and click on the blue button, **Bb Workshops On-Demand**.



Andrew Reil in the new Sandbox

80%

of contacts were related to Mount Royal's learning management system Blackboard



Bree Smith

START Lab

The START program provides technology support to MRU students through drop-in service and scheduled one-on-one technology tutoring sessions.

START also provided 868 hours of service to the broader MRU community by assisting at the Information Technology (IT) Service Desk, IT Labs, and in the Student Residences.

10,568

points of assistance were provided to MRU students

SUPPORT & SERVICE

ADC offers a number of supports and services as a means of assisting faculty in their roles. Whether through consultation, or more hands-on forms of assistance, we work collaboratively with faculty, providing complementary expertise, in order to assist them to achieve specific goals.

Highlights

- Project support for four participants carrying out their work on the Provost's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Grants program
- Technical support for 58 video and other web conferences
- Completion of more than 100 media productions
 - o 42 curriculum productions
 - o 41 research and scholarship productions
 - o 35 community relations productions
 - o 31 live web stream events

Consultation Services

Consultation services are at the heart of ADC's work with MRU colleagues, allowing us to be intentionally responsive to myriad requests for support related to the professional learning and professional development needs of faculty and instructional staff.



65

consultations were provided by
the ADC Faculty Team to faculty
from 17 different academic units

SUPPORT & SERVICE

Curriculum Projects Support

Through an annual call for proposals (CFP) the ADC supports the following curricular initiatives: eLearning courseware development and maintenance of fully online and blended courses, as well as support for flipped classroom course delivery methodologies. All of these projects support alternative course delivery options. In addition, a well-subscribed course redesign initiative, aimed at large scale or programmatic course redesign, is included as part of the annual CFP for curricular project support.

Course Redesign Projects:

- CYCC 2221: Fundamental Skills Counselling
- HPED 1000: Issues in Health and Physical Education
- NURS 3142: Seniors’ Health
- NURS 3244: Professional Practice Seniors’ Health
- SLWK 2221: Community Development

New eLearning Courseware Projects	Mode
ACCN 5581: Critical Care Clinical	Online
ACCN 5591: Emergency Nursing Clinical	Online
COMM 3735: Ethics, Law and Media	Blended
COMM 3737: Research Design and Methodology	Blended
COMM 3759: The Business of Media	Blended
COMM 3890: Special Topics in Public Relations	Blended
COMM 4851: Issues and Ethics in Public Relations	Blended
FNCE 3304: Business and Financial Modelling	Online
PHIL 1130: Philosophy: Sex and Love	Blended

eLearning Maintenance & Sustainability Projects	Mode
ECON 2213: Intermediate Macroeconomics	Online
HLTH 1213: Nutrition, Health and Safety in Young Children	Blended
HPED 3320: Adapted Physical Activity	Online



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The ADC provides MRU faculty with a variety of professional learning opportunities including stand-alone workshops, short courses which run over several sessions, and year-long engagements such as Faculty Learning Communities. These professional development opportunities address topics related to pedagogy, curriculum, assessment of learning, scholarship, and technology integration in a post-secondary context.

MRU teaching and learning community members completed 1,555 session registrations for workshops and programs offered by the ADC, accounting for 3,079 hours of participation in teaching and learning professional development.

49%

of full-time faculty participated
in at least one workshop offered
by the ADC

22%

of contract faculty participated
in at least one workshop offered
by the ADC

A few highlights this year include the following programs:

Faculty Learning Community on Indigenization

A Faculty Learning Community (FLC) on Indigenization was offered for the first time this past year and was co-facilitated by Michelle Yeo (ADC) and Liam Haggarty (Humanities). This FLC set out to explore the Indigenization of education, specifically the integration of Indigenous knowledges and ways of knowing into universities in Canada and elsewhere. Twelve faculty members participated in the FLC through reading and discussion with colleagues in an exploratory framework and multi-disciplinary context. They participated in two experiential learning opportunities, one with the Iyârhe Nakoda in Kananaskis, and the other at Old Sun College on the Siksika Reserve. The group also gave two presentations at the MRFA PD Days. This FLC will be being offered again in the coming academic year.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

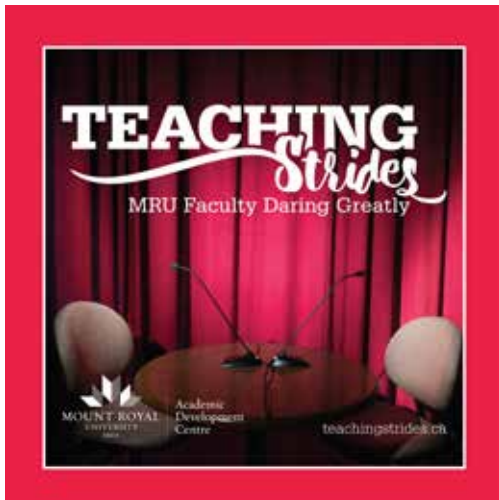
Teaching Strides Podcast Series

Produced by the ADC and launched in fall 2016, the Teaching Strides podcast is a platform dedicated to promoting and supporting cross-disciplinary collegial exchange in higher education. Teaching Strides features MRU professors sharing their teaching practices – practices that lead to student success. Each episode sets out to stimulate reflective thinking and discussion among teaching colleagues in the academy. How may the teaching practices under discussion, or variations thereof, be applied in our own disciplinary contexts, in order to enhance our teaching repertoires?

Subscribe to the podcast series for free on iTunes; episodes are also available to play directly from the Teaching Strides website:
www.teachingstrides.ca

2,767

episodes of Teaching Strides
were downloaded from more
than 20 countries in 2016/17



Season 1 Launch Party

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Support for Open Education Resources

Erika Smith (ADC) and Cari Merkley (MRU Library) were awarded a \$10,000 grant from the provincial Campus ABOER Initiative. The grant enabled MRU to host an Open Education In and Across the Disciplines full-day event in November 2016. Ninety-one participants from over a dozen post-secondary institutions across the province and members of Alberta Health Services (AHS) were in attendance.

Additionally, Erika and Cari offered a full-term Community of Practice (CoP) on Open Education during winter 2017, with 13 faculty members across disciplines participating. An Open Education CoP will be offered again in the coming academic year.



Cari Merkley & Erika Smith

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS





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