2017/18
YEAR IN REVIEW

ADC

ACADEMIC
DEVELOPMENT
CENTRE

MESSAGE FROM THE ACADEMIC DIRECTOR

MIRIAM CAREY, PHD
ACADEMIC DIRECTOR
(INTERIM)

It is with great pleasure that I open our Year in Review by expressing our congratulations and our deepest gratitude to Theresa Matus, the former Director of the Academic Development Centre, upon the occasion of her retirement. Theresa's contributions to the ADC and its team members over the ten years of her Directorship have been invaluable; we miss her greatly and wish her well.

The Academic Development Centre is dedicated to catalyzing excellence and innovation in teaching, learning, and the use of educational technology. Our three teams of educational technologists, faculty members, and media production professionals work with faculty across the university to provide the very best in teaching and curriculum support, professional development, and service to our stakeholders both here at MRU and in the larger educational development community.

Mount Royal University's mission statement asserts that "We are a community of engaged citizens, providing personalized, experiential, and outcome-based learning in an environment of inclusion, diversity, and respect. Through our focus on teaching and learning informed by scholarship, we are preparing our graduates for success in their careers and lives." This mission statement applies equally well to the ADC itself in terms of our values, in terms of the ways in which we undertake our work, and in terms of the outcomes we hope to achieve in providing the programming which we do. We are indeed preparing our faculty colleagues for success in their careers and lives. And the contributions of the ADC to this mission continued in record numbers this last year from our new location in the Riddell Library and Learning Centre. We are delighted to present a summary of our work this past year in this document.

Thank you to our entire ADC team, and many thanks also to our colleagues across the university who engage with us in our many initiatives, support us in our activities, and offer us the opportunity to contribute to the achievement of our university's mission in the unique ways in which we do.

Miriam Carey

catalyzing excellence and innovation in teaching, learning, and the use of educational technology

14 faculty participated in the **New Faculty Support Program**

18 faculty participated in the **NFSP Professional Learning Community** for new faculty

51 contract faculty participated in the **Contract Faculty Support Program**

13 mentorship pairs were formed

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.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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

MRU teaching and learning community members completed 1,040 session registrations for workshops and programs offered by the ADC, accounting for 2,349 hours of participation in teaching and learning professional development.

Over the next few pages we will share highlights from the following programs:

›› Faculty Learning Community on Indigenization

›› Celebrate! Teaching & Learning at MRU

›› Active Learning Initiative

1,040
session registrations by MRU teaching and learning community members

2,349
hours of participation

45%
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

FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITY ON INDIGENIZATION

The ADC along with the Office of Academic Indigenization co-facilitated a Faculty Learning Community on Indigenization for the second year in a row. 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. As outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, Indigenizing education has the potential to contribute to healing and reconciliation through developing more diverse and inclusive curricula, increasing enrollment and retention rates among Indigenous students, addressing the legacy of colonial education systems, and fostering cross-cultural understanding and empathy. Thirteen faculty members participated in the FLC through reading, discussion, and experiential learning with colleagues in an exploratory framework.

> "This FLC was the single most useful PD activity that I have undertaken during my time at MRU. It was an active process of indigenization, especially with its visits to TsuuT'ina and Siksika. Those visits gave the readings, the issues, and my own position a depth that still has me thinking, months now after the FLC ended. My work is better for it, in the classroom and on the page."
>
> **Steven Engler**
> Religious Studies

CELEBRATE! TEACHING & LEARNING AT MRU

Organized by a working group of the Teaching and Learning Standing Committee of the General Faculties Council, the inaugural Celebrate! event was held May 9th, 2018 in the Riddell Library and Learning Centre. The event showcased work in teaching and learning by a variety of faculty, students, and staff, and included 9 presentations, 4 roundtable discussions, 7 posters, a video feature, and a panel of previous Distinguished Faculty Award Recipients. The event was opened by the Provost, and the AVP Teaching & Learning closed the celebration with video stories from MRU faculty members and a cupcake reception.

Exceeding expectations of the planning committee, we had 129 people attend various components of the event throughout the day. Attendees expressed how much they appreciated having such a celebration on campus along with an opportunity to talk about teaching and learning with their colleagues in an informal setting.

"This really was a great event, and I learned a lot about creative ways to approach teaching and learning. I really appreciated the novel and often risky approaches in which seasoned instructors engaged their students. This day reminded me of what I bring to the classroom as an instructor, as well as who I am as a teacher. I am really excited to put some of the strategies I learned into mindful practice with my students!"

Stephanie Zettel
School of Nursing and Midwifery

ACTIVE LEARNING INITIATIVE

The Active Learning Initiative seeks to promote active learning pedagogies and to investigate the effects of classroom design on teaching and learning practices that involve active learning pedagogies. It emerged as a result of the opening of MRU's first active learning classroom (ALC). This experimental learning space is intentionally designed to support faculty in the application of active learning principles in their teaching.

In 2017/18 the ADC offered various PD opportunities related to active learning in order to generate awareness of and interest in this experimental classroom. Through a pilot, we offered several experienced faculty the opportunity to teach in the ALC which resulted in ten credit courses using the space and more than 100 hours of credit instruction.

Lessons learned from this pilot will be used going forward as the initiative is fully implemented. Opportunities to participate in faculty development and to teach in the ALC will be announced in each of the fall and winter terms.

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 3,859 points of assistance to MRU faculty and instructional staff.

83% of contacts were related to Mount Royal's learning management system, Blackboard (Bb).

Faculty can also access Bb training online through our Bb Workshops On-Demand portal which currently features nine online workshops. The site hosted 613 sessions this year along with 4,062 page views.

To access online Bb training, visit our website at: **mtroyal.ca/adc** and click on the blue button, Bb Workshops On-Demand.

3,859

points of assistance

83%

of contacts were related to Blackboard

4,062

pages views of the Bb Workshops On-Demand website

3,478
points of assistance

1,458
hours of service to the broader MRU community

START LAB

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

3,478 points of assistance were provided to MRU students at the START Lab.

START also provided 1,458 hours of service to the broader MRU community by assisting at the Information Technology (IT) Service Desk, IT Labs, and in the Student Residences.

Media Production Rooms NEW!

New to ADC spaces this year are several media production rooms, accessible from both the START Lab and the Sandbox. Even novice users are able to easily record video in front of a professional green screen. These spaces may appeal to a variety of faculty from those engaged in a flipped-classroom approach to those who assign multimedia projects to students as part of their coursework.

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 complimentary expertise in order to assist them to achieve specific goals.

ACADEMIC MEDIA GROUP

Our team of professional producer/directors provides expertise in the production of high-quality multimedia products to support the Mount Royal teaching and learning community. As is typical, the Academic Media Group was fully subscribed throughout the calendar year with the production of more than 100 projects ranging from documentary and instructional pieces to experiential learning and live web stream events.

New this year, the Academic Media Group created a YouTube channel – Focus on Teaching and Learning; an academic portal for faculty digital initiatives. This new channel provides a virtual showcase of the team's work and also enables faculty to host their digital material in an easily accessible format for themselves and for their students.

116
video and audio productions in collaboration with faculty from

14
different academic units

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.

The ADC Faculty Team provided consultation to 51 faculty from 17 different academic units.

CURRICULUM REDESIGN SUPPORT

The ADC supports Mount Royal faculty in redesigning curriculum in order to help improve student learning and success. Potential course redesign activities may include: needs assessment to explore current and future aspects of the course; review of course learning activities and approaches to assessment of learning; and curricular mapping to examine the alignment of outcomes, learning activities, and assessments at a course or program level.

This year the ADC Faculty Team supported the curriculum redesign of the following courses:

>> **SLGY 2235: Sociology of Health and Illness**
>> **ANTH 1103: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**

51
consultations with
faculty from

17
different academic units

ELEARNING PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The ADC Instructional Design (ID) team supports Mount Royal faculty in the development and maintenance of fully online and blended courses, including the "flipped classroom" approach. Faculty members work collaboratively as subject matter experts with an instructional design consultant, graphic designer, and other ADC professional staff and faculty as required.

This year, the ID team supported the development and maintenance of the following eLearning courseware projects:

New eLearning Courseware Projects	Mode
⟫ ACCN 5507: Pharmacology for the Acutely Ill	Online
⟫ COMM 3500: Media, Culture and Communication Theory	Blended
⟫ COMM 3855: Research Methods for Public Relations	Online
⟫ ENGL 3323: Early Medieval Literature	Blended
⟫ ECON 2213: Intermediate Economic Theory Macroeconomics I	Online
⟫ HLTH 2250: Introduction to Information and Research Literacies	Online
⟫ MDWF 3101: Interprofessional Health Placements	Online
⟫ SLGY 3323: Qualitative Research Methods	Online

eLearning Maintenance and Sustainability Projects	Mode
⟫ ATTH 2051: Professional Practice	Blended
⟫ ECON 1103: Principles of Macroeconomics	Online
⟫ HLTH 3221: Professional Nursing in Mental Health	Blended
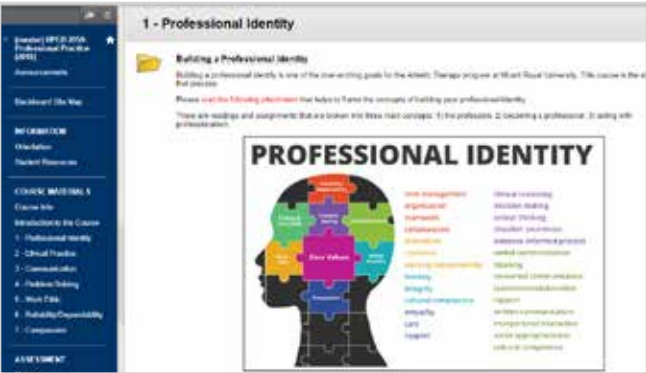
ATTH 2051: Professional Practice
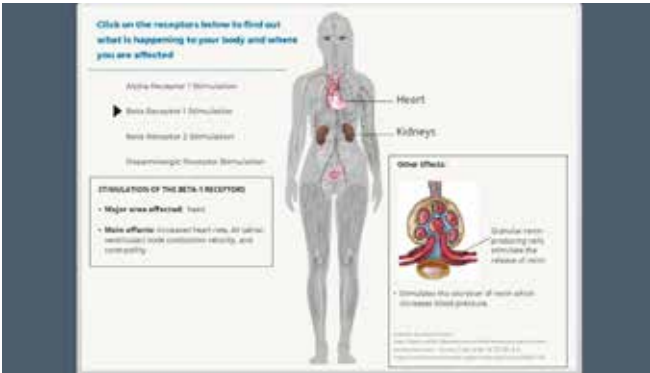
ACCN 5507: Pharmacology for the Acutely Ill

TEACHING & LEARNING ENHANCEMENT GRANTS

The ADC supports recipients of the annual Provost's Teaching and Learning Enhancement (TLE) Grants. These grants encourage faculty innovation and exploration related to pedagogical issues, focusing on benefits and impacts for undergraduate learning. An ADC liaison — a faculty member or professional staff member — is assigned to each grant recipient in order to provide the following types of additional support and expertise to the project:

>> Ongoing consultation and feedback related to planning, assessment, instructional design, etc.;

>> Hands-on assistance with the creation of digital learning objects, online materials, or other media;

>> Optimizing tools and applications in Blackboard or Google;

>> Training and in-class assistance with using or testing specific technology or new teaching methods;

>> Consultation regarding evaluation of impact.

In the 2017-18 academic year, TLE grants were awarded to the following faculty:

>> Andreas Tomaszewski, Economics, Justice and Policy Studies

>> Glen Ruhl, Information Design

>> Kenna Olsen, English, Languages and Cultures

>> Malinda Desjarlais, Psychology

>> Norm Vaughan, Education

>> Pamini Thangarajah, Mathematics and Computing

"Because of the knowledge base, commitment, and support provided by ADC, the TLE grant allowed me to achieve my objectives, and much more. Perhaps more importantly, the support from ADC has directly enhanced my teaching methodologies and philosophies. I now feel much more confident incorporating digital tools in my regular teaching, and I've already received overwhelming positive feedback from students about what we're doing in the classroom and the collection of professional learning resources that I was able to create."

Kenna Olsen
Department of English, Languages, and Cultures
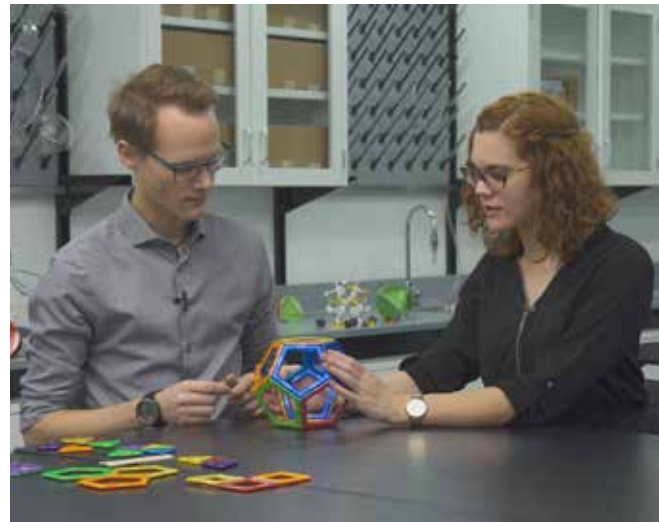
Faculty of Science & Technology: Platonic Solids with Pieter & Erin
Created by Pamini Thangarajah, PHD with support from the Academic Media Group

SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS INFORMING TEACHING & LEARNING

Reflecting Mount Royal University's commitment to teaching informed by scholarship and high-quality intellectual inquiry, faculty development team members in the ADC make a wide range of impactful scholarly contributions by engaging in educational research and the scholarship of teaching and learning.

From L to R: Luciano da Rosa dos Santos, Jennifer Boman, Michelle Yeo, Erika Smith

The following list provides some scholarship highlights from the 2017-18 academic year:

Michelle Yeo researches in Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), focusing both on faculty and student experiences. Recent highlights were the publication of an article on disciplinary approaches to assessment with Jennifer Boman, and acceptance of a manuscript on exploring a faculty learning community in Indigenization.

Jennifer Boman's research interests include teaching and learning in higher education. Highlights from the past year include the publication of a peer-reviewed article on faculty conceptions of assessment with Michelle Yeo and co-presenting at the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

Erika Smith's research interests include educational technologies, undergraduate learning, and higher education. Recent highlights include being awarded a SSHRC Insight Development Grant (2017-19) to investigate digital literacies in undergraduate disciplines, and acceptance of two peer-reviewed articles on faculty development.

Luciano da Rosa dos Santos researches online education, learning spaces, and educational development. Luciano completed his doctoral dissertation in 2017 and is disseminating its findings in national and international conferences, as well as journal publications.

Additionally, our team made a scholarly presentation on our curriculum model at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education this past Spring.

ADC TEAMS

ACADEMIC MEDIA GROUP

›› Allan Gruber, Team Lead

›› Ian Borg, Producer/Director

›› Jim Baillies, Producer/Director, SAN Administrator

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TEAM

›› Andrew Reil, MS, Educational Technologist

›› Bree Smith, START Media Trainer & Communications Lead

›› Fay Green, MEd, Instructional Design Consultant

›› John Cheeseman, MEd, Educational Technologist

›› Khethwen Woo, BFA, Web Developer/Graphic Designer

›› Olga Belan, BSc , Educational Technologist

›› Pattie Mascaro, MA, Instructional Design Consultant

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT TEAM

›› Andrea Phillipson, PhD, Faculty Development Consultant

›› Erika Smith, PhD, Faculty Development Consultant

›› Jennifer Boman, PhD, Faculty Team Coordinator

›› Luciano da Rosa, PhD, Faculty Development Consultant

›› Michelle Yeo, PhD, Faculty Development Consultant

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

›› Theresa Matus, MA, Director (Outgoing)

›› Miriam Carey, PhD, Academic Director (Interim)

›› Amanda Veinotte, BAC, Manager, Learning Technologies

›› Mary-Ann Ciupak, Administrative Assistant

›› Nancy Funke, Administrative Assistant

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