SENATE TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
14 September 2022
2:00 pm to 3:30 pm
via Zoom

Attendees

Senators
Dr. Francis Andrew  Dr. Simon Bates  Dr. Julian Dierkes
Dr. Joanne Fox (Chair)  Dr. Maura MacPhee  Dr. Ingrid Price
Dr. HsingChi von Bergmann  Karen Smith  Jorden Hendry
Dana Turdy

Ex Officio
Dr. Kin Lo  Dr. Christina Hendricks  Dr. Ainsley Carry
Dr. Margret Moss  Dr. Jan Hare

Regrets
Dr. Alison Greig  Georgia Yee  Dr. Maya Krzic
Dr. Kate Ross

Guests
Annie Yim  Dr. Stephanie McKeown  Dr. Abdel Azim Zumrawi

Office of the Senate
J. Cowen

Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement
The meeting of the Teaching and Learning Committee (the “Committee”) was called to order at 2:02 pm on 14 September 2022 by Joanne Fox, Chair.

The Chair led the land acknowledgement from Orlando, Florida and took the opportunity to share some historical information on the indigenous people of that area including the Seminole and Miccosukee Tribes.

Agenda
THAT THE Senate Teaching and Learning Committee adopt the agenda as presented.

Adopted by General Consent

Minutes
THAT THE Senate Teaching and Learning Committee approve the 14 April 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

C. Hendricks
H. von Bergmann
Carried by General Consent
Chair’s Remarks  

The Chair noted that the meeting schedule for this academic year has been set and is included in the materials. Zoom invitations have been sent for now, however, the format of meetings may change over the course of the year. Two joint meetings with the Okanagan Learning and Research Committee are anticipated for this year, likely in November and February. Integrative evaluation of teaching will be the topic for the first meeting. Rotating land acknowledgments will continue this year as committee members volunteer.

Introductions  

Introduction of new student Senators Jorden Hendry and Dana Turdy

Report to UBC Senates: Final Report on Student Experience of Instruction (SEI)  

As presented by Christina Hendricks, Stephanie McKeown and Abdel Azim Zumrawi

The Chair noted that committee members Simon Bates, George Yee and Christina Hendricks have all participated in this work.

Introductions of guests: Stephanie McKeown, Chief Institutional Research Officer and Abdel Azim Zumrawi, PAIR Statistician and Adjunct Professor, Forestry

C. Hendricks briefly introduced the presentation and report. SEI has been to T&L a couple of times in the past and will be going to the Okanagan Learning and Research Committee this week and then to both Senates for information. She went through the timeline beginning with the 2019 working group report and its sixteen recommendations to Senate which led to the formation of the SEI steering committee and implementation committee. This report addresses the sixteen recommendations, which have been implemented and which are ongoing, with a focus on data analyses

A. Zumrawi presented a high-level summary of the data analyses completed. 2021 Winter Term 1 data from both campuses was used to examine the six new UMI questions. He outlined the variables used in the study, what data was sampled, and highlights from the data analysis.

C. Hendricks went through the section of the report on platforms for automated text analyses and referred the group to the appendices for the detailed information. This came from one of the recommendations because faculty reported that text comments is where they often found the most helpful information. The group looked at four platforms, two from UBC and two from Explorance, the company that provides Blue, the SEI software used by UBC. She outlined the recommendations for next steps and the ongoing work which includes an integrative evaluation of teaching policy working group and review group; further data analyses by PAIR; development of an interactive online reporting dashboard; workshops; and training.
Q: has there been a decline in response rates?
A: there has been a steady decline over the past couple of years so it is not necessarily tied to the change in questions. The decline is significant but it’s not the magnitude of the decline, it’s the failure to reach the recommended response threshold not just in small classes but now in larger classes as well.

Q: an earlier presentation noted that response rates in years one, two and three are significantly lower than in year four – is there any explanation for this?
A: this can’t really be explained by the variables and there is no explanation right now but it is a consistent observation; it could possibly be related to class-size.

Q: the two Blue platforms give clear visuals which is helpful but if only two students provide text comments, how does this affect the analysis?
A: it wouldn’t be very useful. The group really looked at programs available to faculty members; this is not meant to be used for evaluation of teaching, it’s meant to be formative.

Q: of the 11 000 students surveyed, what percentage was this of all students who replied and is it representative of the students we see in class?
A: one hundred evaluations from each field of study were pulled so the percentages differ depending on the size of the courses

Proposed Committee visit to X̱w̓c̓əc̓əms Garden

The group was scheduled to visit the garden in May but the visit was cancelled because only a few people could attend. This could have been related to scheduling it in the regular meeting slot instead of considering actual availability or it may have been that in May members move off their regular schedules. The committee discussed whether the visit is something it is interested in; whether it is ready for it as a committee including with respect to difficult conversations; should the committee perhaps start with something smaller; would this be considered a safe space for the committee; inside and outside learning opportunities: the possibilities of a farm visit, the decolonization walk, a meeting in the Longhouse.

Business Arising from the Minutes
None.

For Approval
None.

Other Business
The Chair noted that the Faculty of Education MOOC on Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education begins next week for six weeks.

Next Meeting
Next regular meeting is 12 October 2022 from 2:00-3:30pm.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 3:19 pm.