

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Provost and Vice President Academic

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MEMORANDUM

May 2, 2008

To: Senate
c/o Lisa Collins, Associate Registrar, Senate and Curriculum Services

From: David H. Farrar
Provost and Vice President Academic

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'DAF', followed by a horizontal line.

Re: **The Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning**

Recommendation:

That the Senate receive for information the attached Report to Senate on the Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, May 2007 – 2008.

The Institute was established by the Senate in May, 2004. The attached report is provided by Dr. Gary Poole, Director of the Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth and the Institute.

Attachment: The Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning: Report to Senate, May 2007 – 2008.

The Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning: Report to Senate, May 2007 — May 2008

- The Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISoTL) supports research and reflection on teaching and learning. ISoTL aims to inform and enhance practice, locally and internationally. The Institute continues to be responsive to the needs of UBC's teaching and learning community, and advocates for an effective reciprocity between research and practice.
- The Institute continued to enhance UBC's broad reputation in teaching and learning through international presentations and membership in the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning and its membership in the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.
- In 2007-2008, ISoTL expanded its activities to include sessions on Learning with the Literature, Research in Progress, and Practice in Progress. The Institute also welcomed its first post-doctoral fellows.
- In 2007-08, ISoTL offered ten events, attracting over one hundred participants.
- The IsoTL network currently has more than two hundred members.
- The Research Collaboration Program launched its 4th round of funding by providing funds for three new SoTL projects, bringing to 15 the number of SoTL projects supported by ISoTL. Round 4 projects are:

Department/Faculty	Title	Lead Researcher(s)
Dentistry	<i>Analysis of ePortfolio's Effect on Dental Student's Learning Skills</i>	Karen Gardner and Jolanta Aleksejuniene
Physics	<i>The Impact of a Context-Rich, Environmental Physics Curriculum on Students' Attitudes in Introductory Physics</i>	Andrzej Kotlicki
Chemistry	<i>The Validation of First Year Chemistry Examinations</i>	Derek Gates, Jackie Stewart, and Mike Wolf

- The Institute operates on a \$30,000 annual budget. This pays for .2 FTE CUPE admin support, event expenses, and Research Collaboration Projects with a round of funding offered every two years.
- For those working in the scholarship of teaching and learning, effective support and dissemination continue to be key challenges. Given the University's substantial investment in pedagogical research, bolstered considerably by the Carl Wieman Science Education Initiative, the need to support this growing community of scholars and to help the University reap the most benefit from this work is more pressing than ever.