

Memo

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To: Christene Carpenter Cleland, Chair, T&LPC

From: Rajiv Jhangiani, Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning

Date: April 2, 2024

Subject: **Report of the Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning**

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide a regular report to the members of T&LPC. The following is a summary of relevant activities between March 6 and April 2, 2024:

Centre for Pedagogical Innovation

- Teaching Assistant Reception
 - On [Tuesday April 9](#), CPI is pleased to confer the 2024 [Teaching Assistant Awards](#) as follows:
 - International TA: Huma Khalid, Department of Educational Studies
 - Graduate TA: Recipient Richard Trotter, Department of Educational Studies
 - TA Award: Sandra Kroeker, Department of Child and Youth Studies
 - In addition, nearly 100 teaching assistants and instructors will be recognized for the following achievements:
 - [Certificates in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education](#) (Foundational and Advanced Certificates)
 - Graduate Teaching Assistant Practicum
 - Instructor Certificate Program
- [Brightspace Transition Survey](#)
 - Brock faculty and instructors are invited to share their feedback on the transition from Sakai to Brightspace, the University's learning management system (LMS). More information in this Brock News article: [Faculty, instructor feedback sought on Brock learning management system](#)
- Findings of the First Year Experience Brightspace site
 - During the Fall/Winter Term the Office of the Registrar and Enrolment Services, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the CPI conducted a pilot of this communications approach. The findings were:
 - All participants had positive feedback for the population of important dates into participants' calendars.
 - ITS successfully generated enrollment information for all students enrolled in these departments' offerings.
 - The access and permissions structures of the central FoSS site were clunky.
 - Concern about duplication of messages from elsewhere: Other Brightspace sites, or messages sent in other E-Mail "blasts" or social media.
 - As mentioned in the last update, important dates will be added to the global calendar in Brightspace. The other outcome is any undergrad department/program can have a site with their majors automatically added to the site. [CPI will maintain a directory and related services](#).
- Open Educational Resources (OER) Adoption Grant
 - The OER Adoption Grant program provides grants of \$500 to individual faculty members

(or \$1,500 for teams of faculty from a department) who wish to displace the cost of commercial textbooks with the ongoing adoption of OER for a given course. Not sure where to start? Watch this [OER Foundations Starter kit for Instructors](#) workshop video.

- Visit the [OER showcase page](#) to see how current OER grant recipients are using OER and recordings from Open Education Week events.
- Webinars on Assessment
 - All [webinar recordings](#) focusing on Assessment are available on the CPI website.
- Perspectives on Indigenous Pedagogy in Education: Learning From One Another
 - Visit CPI's [Indigenous Pedagogies website](#) for all session recordings.

Co-op, Career, and Experiential Education (CCEE)

- European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD) re-accreditation
 - The Goodman School of Business is currently undergoing the re-accreditation process for the BBA Double Degree program. CCEE actively contributed to the EFMD self-assessment, focusing on graduate profiles, career programming preparation, career readiness, and employer feedback. The BBA Double Degree is exclusively a co-op program. Utilizing our competency-based reflective approach, our graduates emerge with a comprehensive understanding of the ten Brock Core Competencies. These skills are nurtured through diverse experiential learning opportunities, including co-op work experiences, service learning initiatives, as well as co-curricular and extracurricular programming provided by Goodman.
 - Based on students' co-op work term survey and employer feedback from 2021 to 2023, among over 160 Double Degree co-op work term records:
 - 97% of our Double Degree students met their co-op employer's expectations;
 - 94% of co-op employers would consider rehire their Double Degree students for a future co-op position or refer them to full time opportunities in the organization.
- Experiential Education – External Funding
 - Following the success of our iHub funding last year, the Experiential Education team submitted nearly 10 CEWIL innovation/enhancement grant applications including a Spring/Summer bursary for \$475,000. These applications are currently awaiting approval.
- Careers in Healthcare and the Biomedical Industry
 - An event in late March highlighting wide-ranging career paths within the health sector and related scientific industries drew students from the Faculties of Applied Health Sciences and Mathematics and Science. Seven industry experts shared insights into in-demand and emerging opportunities in their fields and offered guidance on obtaining necessary qualifications for new graduates, such as certifications, skills, and work experience.
- Celebration & Recognition Event (CCEE and Faculty Partners):
 - This event will be held on April 15 from 4:30-7pm. This event celebrates the success of our partners in work-integrated learning and the successes of our students and faculty. We look forward to recognizing those who work with our faculties and programs to support our students.

Professional and Continuing Studies (PCS)

- New offerings
 - Ran our first open enrollment program for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

- Opened registration for [three new programs in artificial intelligence](#), including Brock's first AI micro-credential.
- Other notable developments
 - Began work with TOES Niagara on The Code of Conduct for Human Trafficking Prevention in the Niagara Region, including community presentations, design work and development of a steering committee. To learn more visit <https://toesniagara.ca/code>
 - Signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the South Niagara Chamber of Commerce to become their official Learning Partner.
- ESL
 - Welcomed a custom English language group from Hokkai High School in Japan.
 - Successfully partnered with Thorold Secondary School to offer a cultural immersion program for the students.
 - Completed our Winter Intensive English Language Program term, with seven students moving into undergraduate studies and one student applying to graduate studies.

Other notable projects, initiatives, or events

- Participated in Brock's Open Education Week events on March 6
- Attended CPI's Scholarship of Teaching and Learning event on March 7
- Attended the Board of Trustees meeting on March 7
- Participated in an Open Education Global live-streamed event on March 8
- Participated in board meetings of Open Education Global on March 13 and March 26
- Gave the opening keynote address at the Association for Learning Technology's [OER24 conference](#) on March 27 at Munster Technological University in Cork, Ireland
- Participated in the launch of an EU-funded white paper on open educational practices for the Irish higher education sector, on which I am the lead author, on March 27 in Cork, Ireland