

Memo

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To: Christene Carpenter Cleland, Chair, T&LPC

From: Rajiv Jhangiani, Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning

Date: December 9, 2022

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 of the 3 weeks between November 21, 2022 and December 9, 2021:

Draft academic plan

- Following consultations with 7 Senate committees this Fall, including the Planning, Priorities, and Budget Advisory Committee, Undergraduate Program Committee, Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee, Teaching & Learning Policy Committee, Graduate Studies Committee, Information Technology & Infrastructure Committee, and Governance Committee, as well as a generative discussion at Senate, I made 25 minor revisions to the draft academic plan to incorporate this feedback.
- On December 8, the Planning, Priorities, and Budget Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend that Senate approve the revised draft academic plan.

Budget development

- Along with other units at Brock, I have been working with my colleagues in Co-op, Career, and Experiential Education (CCEE) and the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation (CPI) to develop our budgets for 2023-24 in line with guidance that includes significant savings targets. While challenging, we are doing our best with limited resources to ensure that we can maintain our supports for instructors and students.

Teaching award recipients

- At the annual [Tribute to Teaching](#) event on December 12, 2022, CPI will celebrate the recipients of the Brock-wide Teaching Awards, including:
 - Tim Fletcher, Kinesiology (2022 Distinguished Teaching Award)
 - Priscilla Burnham Riosa, Applied Disability Studies (co-recipient, Brock University Award for Excellence in Teaching for Early Career Faculty)
 - Alisa Grigorovich, Recreation and Leisure Studies (co-recipient, Brock University Award for Excellence in Teaching for Early Career Faculty)
 - Kate Cassidy, Communications, Pop Culture, and Film (co-recipient, Don Ursino Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Large Classes)
 - David Hutchison, Education and Digital Humanities (co-recipient, Don Ursino Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Large Classes)
 - Natalie Spadafora, Child and Youth Studies (Clarke Thomson Award for Excellence in Sessional Teaching)
- Our congratulations and deep gratitude go to our immensely-deserving award recipients for their dedication to students and their exemplary teaching practice.

Events

- Along with Dr. Lesley Rigg and Anna Guo, I participated in a panel discussion organized by Brock

International on November 21, 2022 to celebrate International Education Week entitled *Brock Faculty and Staff Stories: Embracing self-identity through International Education*.

- I participated in the day-long virtual [National Dialogues and Action for Inclusive Higher Education and Communities](#) on December 2, 2022, hosted by the University of Toronto Scarborough.

Notable projects/initiatives

- CCEE is working through a pilot called WE WIL (Work-Experience, Work-Integrated Learning) that has been funded by Enbridge. 14 students from the Bachelor of Business Communications Program have signed up to do a "co-op lite" where they will engage in a career development course and then have access to paid work experience opportunities related to their program throughout the summer. These "WE WIL" students will be the first to pilot a flexible WIL model for programs that do not have a co-op program but can participate in a robust paid WIL experience.
- CCEE and CPI are currently pulling together a Brock-wide Innovative WIL proposal to support bursaries for students engaging in unpaid experiences. CCEE and CPI will collaborate with the Faculty Champions to submit a proposal to support removing barriers to participation in WIL experiences at Brock.
- In line with the work plan of USAC, I have been working in partnership with the Office of the Registrar and CPI to review FHB 3.A.9 (Examination). A set of conceptual questions related to potential revisions to this policy will be presented for discussion at the December 14, 2022 meeting of USAC. Based on feedback from USAC, revised policy language will be drafted and brought to a future USAC meeting for consideration.
- I convened a meeting of the Classroom Modernization & Planning Advisory Group on November 22, 2022, during which its terms of reference was reviewed, along with its relationship with the Senate Information Technology & Infrastructure Committee.
- I convened a meeting of the new Campus Trauma-Informed Practices Group on November 28, 2022. This cross-functional group is currently drafting its terms of reference and will soon be able to indicate the ways in which it will be able to support our campus community.
- Representatives of CPI and the Library met with members of the University of Minnesota-based [Open Education Network](#) to better understand the various advantages that institutional membership would bring to Brock University.
- [CPI's support for our instructors' transition to the new Brightspace Learning Management System](#) was highlighted in the Brock News.
- On an interim basis, I have assumed support of the Ombuds office, which is now led by Marla Terreberry-Portfilio.
- CCEE is accepting applications for the [co-op student of the year award](#) and the [experiential education student\(s\) of the year award\(s\)](#).

Recent hires

- I participated in the hiring process to fill two vacant Associate Director positions in CCEE:
 - Shane Malcolm is our new Associate Director, Career Education and joins us from the Onyx Initiative where he served as the Director Career Success
 - Dan Lonergan is our new Associate Director, Experiential Education and rejoins us from Co-operative Education and Work-Integrated Learning (CEWIL) Canada where he served as the Associate Director, Strategic Partnerships.
 - We are delighted to welcome both Shane and Malcolm to the CCEE team and are excited about the experience and skills they bring to these key leadership roles.
- CCEE also welcomed Jessie Fehrman to the Experiential Education Consultant (EEC) role

supporting the Faculty of Social Sciences & Faculty of Education and Chris Ventura as our Senior EEC supporting the Goodman School of Business.

- CPI welcomed Stuart McCulley as our new Learning Management System Support Assistant.

External

- I am honoured to have received an invitation to serve as a Distinguished Visiting Teaching Scholar at Trent University in late February 2023. During my visit to Trent I will give two talks and meet with faculty, staff, and administrators to discuss issues related to critical, open, and inclusive pedagogies.