Memo

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To: Christene Carpenter Cleland, Chair, T&LPC

From: Rajiv Jhangiani, Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning

Date: February 6, 2024

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

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 January 10 and February 6, 2024:

Centre for Pedagogical Innovation
- Webinar Series on Assessment
  - Registration is open for our webinar series focusing on Assessment, which continues through the Winter term:
    - Assessments in the Second Language Classroom, A Multilingual Dialogue, Dr. Rosa Hong and Adriana Grimaldi, Tuesday Feb 13, 2024, 11am-12:30pm
    - Slow Change: Responding to Generative AI in the Classroom, Dr. Cate Denial, Tuesday March 5, 2024, 11am-12:30pm
  - Recordings from previous sessions are available on the webinar website.
    - Accessible Assessments and Universal Design for Learning, Dr. Ann Gagné
    - Assessment for Blended and Online Learning, Dr. Brenna Clarke Gray
    - Writing in the Age of Artificial Intelligence, Dr. James M. Lang
    - AI Essentials for Educators: A Practical Guide for Next Generation Learning, Simon Chow
    - Reframing the STEM classroom in the age of AI through authentic, equity-centered assessment and evaluation, Clarissa Sorensen-Unruh
- Indigenous Pedagogies Book Launch
  - In partnership with Indigenous Education, CPI is pleased to co-host a series of webinars with Dr. Sheila Cote-Meek, starting on February 6, 12:00-1:30pm where she was joined by co-editor Taima Moeke-Pickering to discuss Amplifying and Centering Indigenous Pedagogies in Post-Secondary Education.
  - Additional sessions will be available on experienceBU featuring the following authors:
    - Monday, February 26: 12:00-1:30pm
      - Dr. Keri Cheechoo
      - Dr. Joey-Lynn Wabie et al.
    - Tuesday, March 12 – 12:00-1:30pm
      - Dr. Danielle Lussier
      - Dr. Carolyn Roberts
    - Monday, April 8 – 12:00-1:30pm
      - Dr. Erin Keith & Dr. Krista LaRue Keeley
      - Dr. Robyn Rowe & Dr. Amy Shawanda
- Open Educational Resources (OER)
  - Applications for the OER adoption grant are presently being adjudicated.
- Educational Technologies
  - Brightspace

- Change coming to student access to past courses Brightspace. The first Fall term highlighted a gap between student and instructor access to past courses in Brightspace and the default 30 days. Based on this feedback, Students will soon have access to all of their past courses in Brightspace unless instructors make the course inactive.
- Merging courses: Instructors can now merge their own course sites (i.e. multiple sections taught by the same instructor) with the SIS Course Merge tool.
- MS Teams integration. CPI and ITS are working with D2L to integrate MS Teams directly into Brightspace for enrollment and related records. The intent is to replace the current School Data Sync (SDS) MS Teams provisioning site to improve the experience and address Microsoft's planned end of life of the current version of the SDS platform.
  - o Sakai "thawed" from cold storage for the first time
    - The first week of Sakai's availability for 2024 completed January 29th. About a dozen students and instructors made use of this access. The next one-week period of Sakai availability will be as early as the 4th week of April. More information is available on the CPI website.
  - o Single course pilot of Feedback Fruits continues
    - Brightspace does not have a peer grading functionality, whereas Sakai had rudimentary functionality. The Centre for Pedagogical (CPI) Innovation would be happy to include other courses that conclude before July in the pilot.
  - o Student Course Experience Surveys
    - After obtaining a recommendation from the Senate Committee on Information, Technology and Infrastructure (IT&I) and endorsement from Senate, as per FHB III 5.3, CPI is working with Procurement Services to finalize a Request for Proposals (RFP) to continue the availability of Online Student Course Experience Surveys past the expiration of the current contract this Summer. We especially appreciate Dr. David Hutchison's participation on the RFP evaluation committee.
  - o Phrase Matching Software (Turnitin)
    - After obtaining a recommendation from the Senate Committee IT&I and endorsement from Senate, as per FHB III 5.3, CPI is working with Procurement Services to consider Brock University's options between hosting our own competitive process, adopting OECM's process, or related options.

Co-op, Career, and Experiential Education (CCEE)
- Experience Expo
  - o CCEE hosted 72 employers on campus on January 30, who presented our students with full-time, co-op, summer, and part-time work opportunities. There were 1949 students in attendance, and we have received positive feedback from students, employers, and faculty who attended. In addition to a series of workshops offered to students leading up to the event, our on-site "just-in-time" coaching prepared students to speak with our employer partners. Experience Expo is Brock's largest recruitment event and has become an annual offering as part of our programming.
- Entrepreneurship Co-op
  - o The Entrepreneurship Co-op program provides students with the guidance, coaching and support needed to help them advance their entrepreneurial ideas under the supervision of Brock LINC. In addition to two $1,000 dollar scholarships, we also offer Laura Sabia

Entrepreneurial Co-op Award of $10,000 to a selected female co-op student entrepreneur for the upcoming Spring/Summer work term. As an ongoing collaboration with Brock LINC, we have begun promoting the support and funding opportunities available to aspiring student entrepreneurs.

- Cannexus 2024
    - This is Canada's largest bilingual career development conference hosted by CERIC. Two of our staff members, Laura Fyfe and Katrina D'Intino, presented virtually at this event. Session details:
    - Title: "Ah ha!": How to Create Research-Informed Co-curricular Programming.
    - Description: This session explores outcomes and implications of cross-disciplinary research on how post-secondary students articulate career competencies and develop career self-efficacy through participation in co-curricular programs. The programs studied, Brock University's Med and Law Plus, and built on Happenstance Learning Theory and Experiential Learning Theory. We review findings from the resulting qualitative research: a partnership between career practitioners, faculty, and researchers.

Professional and Continuing Studies (PCS)

- As of January 18, I have assumed oversight of Professional & Continuing Studies (including English as a Second Language)
- New PCS programming
    - Launched programming in Change Management, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Human Resources, and Strategic Leadership, with first offering dates upcoming in Spring 2024.
    - Signed a partnership agreement with RoboGarden to deliver programming on full-stack development.
- Combatting human trafficking
    - PCS worked with MOU partner TOES to receive federal funding through the Women and Gender Equality Canada to prevent human trafficking in the Niagara region.
- ESL
    - Welcomed 34 English as a Subsequent Language (ESL) learners to our Intensive English Language Program (IELP), including 20 students conditionally accepted to Brock University
- Destiny One
    - This registration and payment system went live in December, with programming options opening from early January.

Other notable projects, initiatives, or events

- Attended a virtual board meeting for Open Education Global on January 15
- Attended and spoke at the BIPOC community social on January 16
- Commenced work as part of the joint committee advancing an equity audit of tenure and promotion processes outlined in the latest BUFA collective agreement, to ensure that these processes are responsive to employment equity provisions for self-identified faculty members and professional librarians
- Continued supporting efforts as part of the EDI Census and Employee Strategy steering committee
- Met with staff from the Library and CPI on Jan 18 to plan future supports for instructors who wish to assign Wikipedia assignments
- Facilitated a CCEE community of practice session on harnessing open educational resources

on January 18
- Attended the first annual Pow Wow on January 19
- Met with representatives from Niagara Health on January 22 to explore potential partnerships
- Met with colleagues from Kwantlen Polytechnic University on January 23 to provide feedback on their research engagement strategy
- Chaired the latest meeting of the Open Education Working Group on January 25
- Met with colleagues from Munster Technological University on January 31 to provide feedback on their open education strategy
- Chaired a meeting of the advisory group on artificial intelligence on February 1 that addressed questions concerning how generative AI may be used to support graduate teaching and learning, in response to a request from the Senate Graduate Studies Committee