

# Memo

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To: Christene Carpenter Cleland, Chair, T&LPC

From: Rajiv Jhangiani, Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning

Date: March 5, 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 February 7 and March 5, 2024:

## Centre for Pedagogical Innovation

- [Book Launch: Perspectives on Indigenous Pedagogy in Education: Learning From One Another](#)
  - [Monday, April 8 – 12:00-1:30pm - Registration](#)
  - Join CPI for this book launch in partnership with Dr. Sheila Cote-Meek and Dr. Taima Moeke-Pickering (eds). The book is available digitally through the Brock library.
    - Dr. Erin Keith & Dr. Krista LaRue Keeley, [Reconciliatory Pedagogies: Embodying Our Walk as Settler Teachers in Canadian High Schools](#)
    - Dr. Robyn Rowe & Dr. Amy Shawanda, [Indigenous Pedagogies and the Implications of EdTech, Data, and AI in the Classroom](#)
    - Visit CPI's [Indigenous Pedagogies website](#) for session recordings.
- 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.
- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Event
  - CPI was pleased to host the [Scholarship of Teaching and Learning \(SoTL\) event](#) on Thursday March 7, 2024. Current [Chancellor's Chairs for Teaching Excellence](#) recipients shared their progress with their SoTL projects.
  - Nomination packages for 2024 Chancellor's Chairs for Teaching Excellence are due before April 1, 2024
- Educational Technologies
  - Brightspace
    - Participate in the [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](#)
    - [Status Updates to Course Sites](#): Students now have access to all past Brightspace course sites unless a site has been made inactive by its instructor. Course sites were previously hidden from students based on the End Date found in Course Offering Information. This was drawn from the official timetable information. In response to instructor and student concerns regarding retaining access to past

courses, as well as improved pedagogical practice, we are updating the student role to see all past courses.

- Important Dates in Brightspace: During the Fall/Winter Term the Office of the Registrar and Enrolment Services, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the CPI conducted a pilot to streamline communications for first-year students and share information. This pilot will not continue in exactly this form but has led to an enhancement to Brightspace for the whole Brock community. This Spring all [important dates](#) referenced in the FHB will be added to the “global” Calendar in Brightspace, e.g., when the University is closed or the last day to withdraw without academic penalty.
- Guidance on Generative Artificial Intelligence
  - As the landscape of generative artificial intelligence and large language models evolve, CPI is continuing to update our [guidance pages](#) and support for [designing assessments](#).
- [Webinar Series on Assessment](#)
  - [Recordings](#) from all our 2023-24 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
    - Assessments in the Second Language Classroom, A Multilingual Dialogue, Rosa Hong and Dr. Adriana Grimaldi
    - Slow Change: Responding to Generative AI in the Classroom, Dr. Cate Denial

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

- Co-op and Work-integrated Learning (CEWIL) month
  - Each year, CEWIL (Co-operative Education and Work Integrated Learning) Canada celebrates the successes and promotes awareness of co-op and work-integrated learning programs across Canada. As a member institution, Brock University’s Co-op, Career and Experiential Education (CCEE) unit participates in this annual event to help promote the successes of our students, partnerships and programs. Throughout the month of March, we have planned several exciting virtual events, contests, and social media campaigns to drive awareness of Brock’s Co-op and Work Integrated Learning (WIL) programs and initiatives. We will be announcing our students, employer and community partners and faculty awards throughout the month. These include:
  - Student Awards:
    - Catherine Van Veen (Public Health): Experiential Education Student of the Year
      - Catherine is also the winner for the Provincial Experiential Learning Student of the Year Award (University category)
    - Aryan Tiwari (Business Administration Co-op): Co-op Student of the Year
    - Path Patel (Computer Science Co-op): Co-op Student of the Year
    - Nicole Naccarato (MBA Co-op): Co-op Student of the Year
      - Nicole is also the winner for the Provincial Co-op Student of the Year Award (University category).
  - Co-op Employer of the Year Awards:

- Hydro One (Large category)
  - Jones & O'Connell (Small & Medium category)
  - Niagara Health System (Nonprofit category)
- 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.
- Co-op Professional Preparation courses
  - During the week of March 4-8 over 368 co-op students will engage in Networking Simulations. 49 representatives from 31 companies/firms/organizations are volunteering their time for the sessions. Computer Science, Accounting and MBA-ISP students will interact with senior co-op students and industry partners to practice their professional communication and networking skills in a simulated session designed to improve these critical employability skills. Competencies developed include: Practice Intercultural Fluency, Communicate Effectively, Apply Knowledge, Be Curious

### **Professional and Continuing Studies (PCS)**

- ESL
  - Welcomed 11 new students into our IELP program from Doshisha University in Japan
  - ESL students hosted a "[hand-made marketplace](#)" which featured calligraphy, art and other goods that raised money for the plastic bank
- New non-credit course/program approvals
  - Professional Certificate in Business Administration, including micro-credentials in Business Communications, Organizational Behaviour, Supervisory & Management Skills and Human Resources Management
- Custom training
  - The PCS team continues to deliver contracted custom training programs for local and regional organizations. Two such contracts have just been renewed for 2024.

### **Other notable projects, initiatives, or events**

- Worked with CPI team members to draft revisions to the FHB section on Evaluation
- Chaired the latest meeting of the Student Ombuds Advisory Committee on February 8
- Attended a meeting of the BC ethical educational technology working group on February 8
- Attended the latest meeting of the Indigenous Degree-Level Expectations Coordinating Committee on February 12
- Attended the latest meeting of the Non-credit Advisory Committee on February 13
- Chaired the latest meeting of the Learning Spaces Advisory Committee on February 14
- Gave an invited talk at Michigan State University on Pedagogy, Technology, and the Post-Pandemic University on February 19
- Chaired the latest meeting of the Open Education Working Group on February 21
- Attended the latest meeting (on February 28) 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

- Gave an invited virtual talk on open educational practices for the University of Northern Colorado on March 4
- Attended the CPI webinar on “responding to generative AI in the classroom” on March 5
- Co-authored a white paper on open educational practices for the Irish higher education sector, due for publication later in March