

Memo

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To: Christene Carpenter Cleland, Chair, T&LPC

From: Rajiv Jhangiani, Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning

Date: April 30, 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 April 3 and April 30, 2024:

Centre for Pedagogical Innovation

- Chancellor's Chairs for Teaching Excellence
 - CPI is delighted to announce that the recipient for the 2024 [Chancellor's Chair for Teaching Excellence](#) is Dr. Leanne Taylor, Faculty of Education, whose 2024-26 project is titled "*Bridging Theory and Practice: A Comprehensive Resource for Emerging Educators in Equity and Social Justice*"
- Course (Re)Design Institute
 - The [course \(re\)design summer institute](#) is a 2-day event to support instructors in the development of their courses in preparation for the fall term.
 - Participants will have the opportunity to engage in workshops on learning outcomes and alignment, assessment and activity design, using Brightspace, and accessible pedagogy. Time will also be dedicated to working on designing or redesigning elements of your course (e.g. syllabus, Brightspace course site, assessment design).
- [OER Adoption Grant](#) next application deadline: May 31, 2024
 - 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.
- Educational Technologies
 - Brightspace
 - Brightspace adoption remains high.
 - Fall/Winter 2023: 2857 course offering activated out of 3512
 - Spring 2023: 281 out of 526
 - Summer 2023: 86 out of 142
 - *These numbers do not include Project courses and Co-Op experiences.*
 - This term will be the first term where students will retain access to active sites for the full four years of the [LMS/Online Course Materials Retention Schedule](#). After Brightspace access permissions were [changed to allow students access to completed courses that remained active](#).
 - Sakai
 - Sakai "thawed" from cold storage for the second time
 - The first week of Sakai's availability for 2024 was completed January 29th. April 22nd through the 28th marked the second availability period. Both periods saw about

a dozen students and instructors access the system. [More information is available on the CPI website](#)

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

- CCEE Celebration & Recognition Event
 - This event was held on campus on April 15 and recognized the success of our partners in work-integrated learning and the successes of our students and instructors. Approximately 200 employers, community Partners, faculty, and staff were in attendance. Several inaugural awards were presented and our MOU partners, Niagara Health and Niagara Region, were recognized. This event was a collaboration across our 6 undergraduate Faculties and various university departments. We look forward to continued collaborations across the university in support of this annual event.
- Program Reviews
 - During the month of April, CCEE participated in the cyclical review process for programs in Sociology, Dramatic Arts, and Studies in Arts and Culture. All three reviews were positive and involved fruitful discussions around co-op opportunities, experiential learning opportunities, and career tie-ins.
- Transfer Pathway Program
 - Co-op supported Goodman's transfer pathway program with Bardados Community College, which enables students to transfer into the BBA co-op program. This exemplifies our ongoing efforts to enhance accessibility to the co-op programs for students in supporting the strategic goals of our academic partners.
- Master of Professional Education Program
 - CCEE is supporting the newly proposed Master of Professional Education Program. Our Experiential Education team stands ready to support faculty course instructors in any aspect related to experiential learning. In addition, recognizing the program's focus on professional development for working educational professionals, we propose integrating a non-credit career course delivered by CCEE into the curriculum. This course aims to deepen students' self-awareness, understanding of their values, and professional skill set. We eagerly anticipate further discussions on how our partnership with the faculty can enrich this aspect of the program.
- MOU Partner Annual Impact Reports
 - The Co-op and Experiential team provided a comprehensive summary detailing our contributions to the 14 MOU Community Partners with Brock University. The summary encompasses various aspects including:
 - Number of co-op hirings and experiential placements facilitated;
 - Program details;
 - Highlights showcasing student contributions;
 - Testimonials from students regarding their experiences with the respective partners.

Professional and Continuing Studies (PCS)

- Welcomed a returning group from Hosei University School of Economics for a Business English custom program prior to our IELP program.
- Conducted a custom session for the Bethesda Directors to support team-building and planning for their manager program.
- Ran an on-site course titled "The Land" to support Indigenous Education programming.
- Ran a custom training session for the MTE Young Professionals group with 78 attendees.

Other notable projects, initiatives, or events

- Attended CPI's Teaching Assistant reception on April 9.
- Attended and spoke at the CCEE celebration and recognition event on April 15.
- Participated in the latest meeting of the Tenure & Promotion Equity Audit working group on April 16.
- Participated in the latest meeting of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee on April 18.
- Chaired the latest meeting of the Student Ombuds Advisory Committee on April 22.
- Consulted with the members of the Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee on draft revisions to the Medical Self-Declaration Form and process on April 23.
- Chaired the search process for the Director, CCEE, culminating in the appointment of Julia Zhu, effective May 1, 2024.