



Senate Committees

Report to the Teaching & Learning Policy Committee

Information Item

Topic: Standing report of the Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning

Date of Meeting: May 15, 2026

Rajiv Jhangiani, Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning

1. Purpose of the Report

- Keeping members of T&LPC informed concerning relevant developments and activities within the portfolio of the Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning

2. Background

- Thank you for the opportunity to provide a regular report to the members of T&LPC. The following is a summary of relevant developments and activities between April 3 and May 8, 2026:
- **Centre for Pedagogical Innovation (CPI)**
 - Course (re) Design Institute: August 31-September 3, 2026
 - The course (re)design summer institute returns this year. This event aims 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).
 - [Register for the Course \(Re\)Design Institute](#)

- Brightspace and Accessible Design
 - In recognition of Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD), a day that support digital accessibility awareness, join the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation (CPI) for a session focused on Accessibility and Brightspace. Topics will include using templates to support inclusion, module design, navigation, and resource building. Join us Thursday, May 21 from 11-11:50am.
 - [Register for Brightspace and Accessible Design on Experience BU](#)
- National Accessibility Awareness Week Teaching Resource Challenge
 - Following the success of last year's teaching resource challenge, we are back with even more opportunities for you to learn more about the strategies and workflows that can help you support more accessible teaching and learning spaces. Sign up to be part of the National Accessibility Awareness Week (NAAW) challenge. You will receive an email daily during the week of May 25 to May 29 where you will be given an accessibility challenge that is applicable to your scope of work and practice.
 - [Sign-Up for the National Accessibility Awareness Week Teaching Resource Challenge](#)
- Supporting Accessibility Through Assessment Design
 - This session will support instructors of record in thinking through assessment design and assessment practices that support accessibility and student accommodations. Offered by CPI and SAS, this session will discuss topics found in the SAS Practice Standards, such as memory aids, UDL for final exams, and other assessment considerations. Join us on Wednesday May 27, 2026 from 11-11:50am
 - [Register for Supporting Accessibility Through Assessment Design Experience BU](#)
- Award for Distinguished Teaching
 - The Brock University [Award for Distinguished Teaching](#) is presented annually to a faculty member who, in the opinion of their peers, has made an outstanding contribution to the teaching and learning

environment at Brock University. Nomination packages are due at the end of May.

- Open Educational Resources (OER) Grant Program
 - Are you considering adopting or adapting an Open Educational Resource for your course? The next [grant submission](#) deadline: May 31, 2026
- What's an OER? Guidance for Brock's OER Grants
 - Considering applying for one of Brock's [OER Grants](#)? This workshop will guide you through the application process including what is considered an OER and how to increase your chances of success. This workshop is designed with instructors in mind, but all are welcome.
 - [Monday, May 18, 2026 at 12-1pm](#)
- UN SDG Open Pedagogy Faculty Fellowship
 - The Open Education Working Group is pleased to announce that Brock University has 10 [UN SDG Open Pedagogy Faculty Fellows](#) participating in an international faculty fellowship that focuses on the [United Nations sustainable development goals \(SDGs\)](#). This program, which includes training and support across four mandatory meetings across this summer, leads to the collaborative design of 3 renewable assignments, in which students create OER that are aligned with one or more SDGs, as part of their coursework. This work is completed in cross-institutional and cross-disciplinary teams of faculty who share a common interest in specific SDGs.
 - Melissa Blair, Public Health
 - Olga Fellus, Education
 - Emily Krushelnycky and Doug Karrow, Education
 - Christiana Okyere, Child and Youth Studies
 - Divya Matta, Chemistry
 - Dolana Mogadime, Education
 - Jennifer Pirosko, Education
 - Jenn Skelding, Student Success

- Mariam Takkouch, Education
 - Michelle Vine, Health Sciences
- Brightspace Spring Deletion
 - The [annual Spring deletion](#) of course sites will begin in June. Notifications for impacted instructors associated with these 2021 courses will be sent out in Brightspace, and as always if there is content that you need to save [importing it](#) into a [Project Site](#) will exclude it from the deletion process.
- **Co-op, Career, and Experiential Education (CCEE)**
 - Annual Celebration and Recognition Event
 - Students, employers, faculty, and community partners came together at Brock University on April 16 for the annual Co-op, Career and Experiential Education (CCEE) Celebration and Recognition event, highlighting the partnerships that underpin experiential learning. A key theme throughout the event was the critical role of collaboration in creating meaningful student experiences. The event reinforced Brock's commitment to investing in talent and strengthening the communities it serves through impactful, partnership-driven learning opportunities. Below are two Brock News article highlighting our partners impact:
 - [Community partners celebrated for commitment to co-op student success](#)
 - [Grad builds bridges from classroom to career for Accounting students](#)
 - CEWIL iHUB Funding Application
 - Co-operative and Work-Integrated Learning Canada (CEWIL) iHub is in the process of announcing approved applications for the 2026 Round 1 Call for Proposals. CCEE is currently confirming finalized approved projects and is projecting funding levels that will exceed the 2025/26 funding amount. [Applications for 2026-R2 opened on May 1st and closes May 30th.](#)
 - IRCC update on Co-op Work Permit
 - Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has updated its policies related to co-op work permits for international post-secondary

students. CCEE is working closely with colleagues in International Services and Partnerships to support the implementation of these changes and to assist international students participating in co-op and course-based experiential learning opportunities.

- Key changes included:
 - Students may now complete work experiences for their program using the on-campus work authorization on their study permit if they meet the eligibility criteria.
 - There is no longer a separate co-op work permit. Any students with a pending application will have it returned to them with a letter from IRCC explaining why.
 - Further details are available through IRCC's [Work in a student work placement](#). Any questions may be directed to: isa@brocku.ca

- **Professional & Continuing Studies (PCS)**

- On May 2, PCS along with CCEE, the Faculty of Education, Government & Community Relations, student recruitment and many other departments, participated in the launch of the new Robert Bateman Community Centre in Burlington. The event gave Brock employees and students a chance to connect with residents, showcase the campus within the community centre and highlight programs and other resources available to the public. The full story can be found here <https://brocku.ca/brock-news/2026/05/brock-connects-with-burlington-community-at-bateman-opening-celebration/>
- On May 4, PCS welcomed our largest cohort of learners since our inception for the “Late Spring” session, with 554 registrations across 69 courses.
- PCS, along with CCEE and Government & Community Relations supported the planning and organizations of the South Niagara Chambers of Commerce Niagara Networks event that was held on campus on May 6th. The event was designed to bring local business, government, not-for-profits and education providers together to discuss current pressing topics for the Niagara economy, such as artificial intelligence, managing market uncertainties, identifying funding opportunities and aligning with national priorities to expand

the local economy. The event culminated with a panel moderated by Dr. Lesley Rigg with Dr. Rahul Kumar participating as a panelist.

- **Other notable activities**

- Key meetings

- Held monthly meeting with BUSU on April 6
 - Supported Curriculum Delivery Initiative discussions with the Department of Linguistics on April 6, Department of Geography on April 7, and Department of English on April 29
 - Participated in a meeting of the leadership of the UN SDG Faculty Open Pedagogy Fellowship on April 8
 - Chaired the meeting of the Learning Spaces Advisory Group on April 8
 - Chaired the meeting of the Academic Integrity Advisory Committee on April 27
 - Chaired the meeting of the Student Ombuds Advisory Committee on April 30
 - Presented at the meeting of the Board Audit Committee on May 8
 - Attended the Cycle 4 Board of Trustees meeting on May 8

- Events

- Attended the TA Reception on April 14
 - Attended a board meeting of the Canadian Digital Learning Research Association on April 15
 - Attended the annual CCEE Celebration and Recognition Event on April 16
 - Attended a board meeting of Open Education Global on April 22
 - Attended CPI's Spring Perspectives PD event on May 4