



MINUTES

Subcommittee on Teaching and Learning

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 (10:30am – 12:00pm)

McLennan Library Building, room MS-74

Present: Peter Barry, Robin Beech, Chris Buddle, Adam Finkelstein, Haoran Liao, Bronwen Low, John Mac Master, Annette Majnemer, Laurent Mydlarski, Jean-Paul Remillieux, Nancy St-Pierre (Secretary), Muhammad Wali, Laura Winer (Chair)

Regrets: Angela Campbell, Jessica Head, Svetlana Komarova, Lucy Lach, Vrinda Narain, Sujata Madan, Mitchel Russo, Carole Urbain

Guest: Marcy Slapcoff, Teaching and Learning Services

1. Administrative

- *Adoption of the agenda*
- *Approval of the minutes, September 25, 2017*
- *Business arising:* No business arising was identified.

The administrative portion of the agenda was adopted as circulated.

2. Discussion

a. *Faculty of Medicine's Strategic Education Plan* presented by Annette Majnemer

The Faculty's Vice-Deans were mandated to develop strategic plans focused on their particular portfolios with the intent of modernising/reshaping the Faculty going forward enriching their ability to teach and learn. As the Vice-Dean, Education, Annette was charged with developing the strategic education plan. Following broad consultations with students and faculty, three final goals were identified:

- Learning centered education
- Interprofessional & interdisciplinary partnerships
- Educational research and scholarship

The full strategic plan will be presented at an upcoming Faculty Council. Discussion ensued with a number of questions being posed. Highlights are below:

- Do other Faculties have Faculty-wide strategic plans and would they be willing to share them? If yes, please connect with Annette directly.
- How do you plan on developing buy-in with Faculty and academic developers – what sort of professional development will be needed? Champions and early adopters are being identified and it is anticipated that early successes will produce a ripple effect. As regards professional development, the Faculty has already connected with TLS, and is

working with the Dean to identify the resources that will be needed. The Faculty would also like to address the PhD gap; for example, Medicine students cannot easily get a PhD in Medical Education and new students are facing challenges in finding supervisors. They will be working with the appropriate partners to try to close those gaps.

- b. *McGill Undergraduate Research Conference* presented by Marcy Slapcoff, Teaching and Learning Services

Along with partner units, TLS is developing a proposal to host an undergraduate research conference at McGill. Several staff members attended last year's NCUR conference (National Conference on Undergraduate Research), and this year, three top undergraduate students will be presenting their research at the upcoming NCUR 2018 conference being held at the University of Oklahoma. The intent of their participation is two-fold: for the students to connect with others in a cross-disciplinary exchange, and to have them share their experiences to help us inform our proposal.

Although the proposal itself was greeted with enthusiasm, it was noted that crossing the disciplinary gap to encourage broad participation might be challenging. It was suggested that the organizers connect with the McGill Commitment, Home Coming or Open House to ensure broad participation from the McGill community at-large; not just undergraduate students.

More information will be provided as the planning moves forward.

3. Action

- a. *Revisions to the proposed guidelines, Principal's Prize for Excellence in Teaching* presented by Laura Winer.

Three changes have been proposed:

1. To clarify the eligibility criteria and edit the last sentence of the first bullet to read "candidates must have taught in the academic year for which the award is given";
2. To clarify the wording in section 7.0 *Evidence of Teaching Excellence* to ensure that the course evaluation data presented includes the four core questions that are required for all course evaluations as nominees had not always included responses for the four core questions;
3. To require nominees to submit an intact set of comments from students in one course for one term. The document would be included as an appendix and would not be counted in the 25-page limit for the dossier. Following the 2015 Adjudication meeting, and in order to reduce the overall length of dossiers, it was recommended that nominees not include more than four pages of student course evaluation comments (vetted as appropriate). This was the status quo for the 2016 and 2017 Awards. At the most recent Principal's Prize Adjudication meeting, Committee members expressed concerns about the space limitations as they felt that samples might not provide a complete picture.

STL members approved the proposed changes and recommended that the guidelines be forwarded to APC for approval at an upcoming meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.