



MINUTES

Subcommittee on Teaching and Learning
Tuesday, February 23, 2016 (2:00pm – 3:30pm)
McLennan Library Building, room MS-74

Present: Peter Barry, Robin Beech, Andre Costopoulos, Angela Campbell, Adam Finkelstein, Svetlana Komarova, Hoi Kong, Lucy Lach, Maria Orjuela-Laverde (for Laurent Mydlarski), Nancy St-Pierre (Secretary), Laura Winer (Chair)

Regrets: Parvesh Chainani, Jessica Head, Ian Henderson, Jacqueline Leclair, Bronwen Low, Sujata Madan, Laurent Mydlarski, Elizabeth Nash, Jean-Paul Remillieux, Yvonne Steinert, Carole Urbain

Guests: Marcy Slapcoff, Senior Academic Associate, Teaching and Learning Services
Eva Dobler, Project Administrator, Teaching and Learning Services

1. Administrative

- Adoption of the agenda
- Approval of the minutes, January 12, 2016
- Business arising: Laura Winer took a few minutes to walk members through the new features in MS-74 (TLS Classroom). The space was recently updated to include movable chairs and furniture, as well as interactive technology. This innovative space was designed to allow instructors to explore new strategies and can accommodate a maximum of 30 students. Members were encouraged to contact TLS directly (tls@mcgill.ca) to reserve it.

The administrative portion of the agenda was adopted as circulated.

2. Meeting objectives

By the end of the meeting, the subcommittee should have:

- received updates on the launch of the Principal's Prize for Excellence in Teaching, and the December 11 Symposium: *Teaching What's Important – Educating Students for Today and Tomorrow*
- conducted a roundtable discussion of Faculty-based teaching and learning initiatives

3. Discussion

a. Update on Principal's Prize for Excellence in Teaching (PPET)

Laura Winer, Teaching and Learning Services

Members were advised that nominations are now being accepted for the University-wide awards. Members were reminded to ensure that their constituency is aware of the PPET as well as the Lifetime Achievement Award for Leadership in Learning. Guidelines and nomination procedures are available online.

b. Symposium update: *Teaching What's Important – Educating students for today and tomorrow*

Marcy Slapcoff & Eva Dobler, Teaching and Learning Services

Highlights from the Symposium were distributed to members and will be posted online.

Discussion ensued on some of the actions that resulted from the Symposium, namely:

- instructors valued the opportunity to exchange with colleagues; for many, this was the first time they'd had the opportunity to engage in this type of conversation for the entire day;
- the instructors felt that their experiences were validated, that they were not alone in their challenges;
- the need for cross-disciplinary dialogue was clear;
- in-house expertise/keynotes were greatly appreciated;
- student/teacher panels should be promoted at the local level, e.g., Faculty or department

Lucy Lach asked that the methodology used to support the panel presentation be written up and distributed as it could prove useful for Faculties wanting to engage in a similar activity at the local level.

c. Roundtable discussion of teaching and learning initiatives

All members of STL

Members engaged in a discussion of the various bullet points gathered. It should be noted that the Faculty of Dentistry items will be incorporated and that a revised version would be distributed to all members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm.