

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL  
TEACHING, LEARNING AND ACADEMIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**PRESENTED BY:** Kathleen James-Cavan, Chair  
Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee of  
Council

**DATE OF MEETING:** June 16, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee  
Annual Report

**COUNCIL ACTION:** For Information Only

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
TEACHING, LEARNING AND ACADEMIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL  
2021-2022**

The Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee (TLARC) deals with a range of teaching and learning issues at the university.

The committee is composed primarily of faculty from colleges and departments across the institution who share their experience and expertise in many areas. University staff, who sit as committee members or resource people, provide important input from administrative and technical perspectives.

**Terms of Reference**

- 1) Commissioning, receiving and reviewing reports related to teaching, learning and academic resources, with a view to supporting the delivery of academic programs and services at the University of Saskatchewan.
- 2) Making recommendations to Council and the Planning and Priorities committee on policies, activities and priorities to enhance the effectiveness, evaluation and scholarship of teaching, learning and academic resources at the University of Saskatchewan.
- 3) Promoting student, instructor and institutional commitments and responsibilities, as set out in the University of Saskatchewan Learning Charter and as reflected in the top priority areas of the University of Saskatchewan integrated plans.
- 4) Designating individuals to act as representatives of the committee on any other bodies, when requested, where such representation is deemed by the committee to be beneficial.

- 5) The committee will carry out all of the above in the spirit and philosophy of equitable participation and an appreciation of the contributions of all people. As one of the university's priority areas is Indigenization, this includes rigorous and supportive programs for Indigenous student success, engagement with Indigenous communities, and the creation of learning outcomes tied to Indigenous content and experiences grounded in Indigenous world views. In this context, Indigenous refers to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people of Canada. In addition, the prioritization of internationalization calls the committee to a focus on intercultural and international engagement among students, educators, and staff.

## **Membership**

Membership comprises 11\* members of the GAA, at least 5 of whom will be members of Council; includes 1 sessional lecturer.

### **Council Members**

Kathleen James-Cavan (Chair)-Exec	St. Andrew's College	2022
John Gjevre	Medicine	2023
Natacha Hogan	Animal and Poultry Science	2023
Paul Jones	Toxicology	2022
Jo Ann Murphy	Library	2023

### **General Academic Assembly Members**

Loleen Berdahl (Vice-chair)-Exec	Political Studies	2022
Mary Ellen Labrecque	Nursing	2024
Diego Ardenghi	Dentistry	2024
Greg Malin	Medicine	2024
Kelly Foley	Economics	2024
Ann Martin (1-yr leave 2021-22)	English	2023
Nicole Fernandez*	Veterinary Pathology	2022
*(replace A. Martin, 1-yr sabbatical 2021-22)		

### **Sessional**

Jordan Raymond	Educational Foundations	2022
----------------	-------------------------	------

### **Student Members**

Tauqeer Iftikhar	USSU Designate	2022
Mostofa Kamal	GSA Designate	2022

### **Ex-officio (voting)**

Jay Wilson -Exec	Interim Vice-Provost, Teaching, Learning and Student Experience
------------------	---

### **Resource members (non-voting)**

Shari Baraniuk	CIO, Information and Communications Technologies
Rachel Sarjeant-Jenkins	(designate for) Dean, University Library
Cheri Spooner	Director, Distance Education Unit
Nancy Turner -Exec	Director, Teaching and Learning Enhancement
Candace Wasacase-Lafferty	Director, Indigenous Initiatives
Candice Weingartner	Director, ICT Academic and Research Technologies
Erin Holcomb -Exec	Teaching and Learning (Committee Coordinator)

### **Associate Members**

Kate Langrell	Copyright Coordinator
---------------	-----------------------

### **Overview of TLARC Committee Responsibilities:**

To accomplish its broad mandate of supporting the delivery of academic programs and services at the University of Saskatchewan, TLARC meets regularly as a full committee and separately in working groups dedicated to specific topics. At our September 2021 meeting, I encouraged members to choose one working group corresponding to their preference and interest. TLARC members, therefore, have four responsibilities: (1) receiving information about teaching and learning, (2) providing critical input and insight, (3) voting on teaching and learning issues, policies, and processes, and (4) contributing expertise and advice to a working group.

### **Continued Remote Meeting Structure**

TLARC met as a full committee ten times during this academic year on Zoom with two hybrid meetings, December, and June. For some meetings we created smaller breakout groups in which members exchanged views and offered input on such specific matters as how TLARC relates and contributes to *ohpahotân/ohpahotaan/let's fly up together*: Indigenous Strategy for the University of Saskatchewan, the renewed signature areas of research, and student wellness.

### **Issues, Discussions and Work Completed**

All working groups have presented detailed reports to TLARC. Having consulted widely, the Teaching Quality working group has proposed policy on Peer Review of Teaching which comes before Council in June 2022. Reports from the Assessment and Experiential working groups will be presented for broad consultation with appropriate groups across campus throughout the late spring and coming fall terms while the Wellness report has been presented to TLARC and awaits further dissemination.

### **Working groups**

Because of several transitions and people new to the specific projects TLARC was advancing, Dr. Nancy Turner chaired all four working groups, and all were active throughout 2021-22.

**Assessment:** Building on the [comprehensive resource for instructors](#) launched in the Winter term of 2021, this continuing working group focuses on moving toward evidence-informed assessment practices at USask. Having completed the first phase of a multi-year project, the working group presented a detailed report to TLARC and will continue to consult, revise, and advance key actions throughout 2022-23.

**Experiential Learning:** Aimed at enhancing inclusive experiential learning opportunities for faculty and students, raising awareness, enabling support, and facilitating tracking and reporting, the Experiential Learning Framework was presented to TLARC in the Winter term. With feedback and approval from TLARC, the document formed the foundation of Nancy Turner's presentation at the Experiential Learning Symposium held on May 3, 2022. The working group will continue to seek opportunities for consultation and develop an implementation plan in 2022-23.

**Teaching Quality:** In December 2021, TLARC received the report on Teaching Quality out of which has come proposed policy on peer review of teaching. Following extensive consultation, it will be presented at University Council in May/June 2022. The policy and suggested templates are intended to improve transparency and consistency in peer review of teaching practices across University of Saskatchewan campuses.

**Wellness:** Following a pause during the pandemic, this working group returned to its focus on teaching and learning practices that support student mental health and well-being. This

exemplary report with input from faculty, students, staff, and the most recent evidence in the field was reviewed by TLARC in the Winter term of 2021-22.

### **Consultations:**

January 11: Following a presentation by Dr. Angela Jaime, Matthew Dunn, and Robert (Bob) Badger of *ohpahotân/oohpahotaan/let's fly up together*: Indigenous Strategy for the University of Saskatchewan, committee members gave feedback on how TLARC's activities can contribute to the Indigenous Strategy.

February 22: Dr. Baljit Singh and Tonya Wirchenko requested a decision on the Signature Areas of Research Support Strategy.

April 5: Committee members offered responses to a presentation by Dr. Vince Bruni-Bossio and Tonya Wirchenko on Signature Pedagogies.

### **Reports Received:**

January 11: *ohpahotân/oohpahotaan/let's fly up together*: Indigenous Strategy for the University of Saskatchewan

February 22: Signature Areas of Research Support Strategy

### **Other activities:**

TLARC also welcomed presentations from its members and a variety of guests, who shared information and updates on programs and university-wide strategies including:

- Dr. Baljit Singh, Vice President Research, and Tonya Wirchenko on the renewed Signature Areas of Research
- Peter Hedley, Student Wellness
- Jo Ann Murphy, New Tutor Service
- Kate Langrell, Copyright Committee
- Dr. Vince Bruni-Bossio and Dr. Susan Bens, Academic Integrity Task Force

### **Acknowledgements**

I am extremely grateful for the stellar support and organizational skills of our committee coordinator, Erin Holcomb, and for the engagement of all committee members, especially that of Nancy Turner whose indefatigable leadership sustains the committee's engagement in teaching and learning at the University of Saskatchewan.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen James-Cavan, Chair  
Teaching, Learning and Academic Resource Committee of Council