



MEMORANDUM

To: Executive Committee of Faculty Council (September 19, 2014)
Faculty Council (October 8, 2014)

From: Lisa Romkey
Chair, Teaching Methods and Resources Committee

Date: September 5, 2014

Re: **Teaching Methods and Resources Committee Goals for 2014-15**

REPORT CLASSIFICATION

This is a routine matter that will be considered by the Executive Committee for approving and forwarding to Faculty Council for information.

PROCESS AND CONSULTATION

The committee goals for 2014-15 were created collaboratively by all members of the Teaching Methods and Resources Committee, who were also given the opportunity to consult with individuals and groups from their respective offices and departments within the Faculty. The committee voted to approve the goals in August 2014.

COMMITTEE GOALS

In addition to routine issues, such as managing the teaching award process, the committee has identified the following priorities for 2014-15:

1. Ongoing Support for the Online Teaching Evaluation

TMRC will provide leadership for collecting feedback and, where necessary, supporting changes to the online teaching evaluation, in collaboration with the Faculty Registrar's Office and the Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation (CTSI) as appropriate. Activities will include:

- Present results, including successes and challenges, to instructors from across the Faculty;
- Collect feedback about the new teaching evaluations;
- Develop new strategies for promoting the evaluations to students;
- Identify new evaluation questions/approaches for courses that are currently under-served, including Capstone Design, Independent Study and Thesis.

2. Teaching Technologies

Blackboard is up for review in 2015, and we are facing the advent of a number of new teaching technologies at the University of Toronto. Activities will include:

- Create a needs document for a computerized examination facility;
- Using a broad, cross-faculty consultation, develop a review of Blackboard and other learning management systems;
- In conjunction with the Committee on Examinations, review the potential use of Crowdmark or similar technologies (online collaborative grading).

3. Review and Promote the Teaching Awards

Given the low number of nominations received last year for some of the awards, TMRC will conduct a review of the criteria and submission procedures for the awards, in conjunction with reviewing the processes associated with departmental awards, and consider new methods for promotion.

4. Support for Teaching

The committee will support a series of workshops designed to facilitate teaching excellence. These will include:

- Workshops on the development of learning outcomes, which also supports the activities associated with the Graduate Attributes and the new requirements for Teaching Assistant training;
- Workshops on providing quality feedback to students, an area of concern according to our recent teaching evaluation data;
- Showcases/workshops on teaching technologies;
- The Faculty-wide Teaching & Technology Conference (Spring 2015).

PROPOSAL/MOTION

For information.