

Learning Environment Advisory Group

Minutes
January 20, 2016
9:30 am – 11 am, A225

Chair: Maureen Wideman

Attendees: Gordon Jang, Ed Visser, Frank Ulbrich, Bryan Wilkinson, Vera White Phipps, Greg Davis, Judy Larsen, Adrianna Bakos

Regrets: Heather Compeau, Janice Johnson

Recorder: Ruby Ord

1. Agenda

Approved

2. C Building Classroom

The new interactive classroom (C1015) that was funded by Teaching & Learning is a very flexible learning space with an interactive projector, moveable chairs and tables and whiteboard walls. Faculty were alerted to the changes in the new classroom and were encouraged to take a training session on the new projector. Workshops were held in late Summer 2015 but not all the faculty using the room took advantage of the training. Consequently, there were some issues as faculty who booked the room were not prepared to teach for the way it was designed. To book this room, faculty have to specifically request it on the DCU form and submit it to OReg, prior to a new semester.

Another issue with this room is the whiteboard up front is not being cleaned enough, specifically where images are being projected onto the screen. A sign can be placed next to the screen alerting users to clean the whiteboards. Make a request to facilities to have the whiteboards cleaned on the same rotation as other classrooms.

A suggestion was made to install a PC in this room and it could be put on a moveable cart to enable a fully flexible work space.

3. Making More Active Learning Classrooms

There is a demand for more active learning classrooms that can accommodate movable tables and chairs. Some faculty have three or four classes that require maneuvering of tables and chairs throughout and it can be hugely disruptive when there are no wheels. Whiteboards are also very useful and it would be helpful if there were more in a classroom. Some suggestions for whiteboards include painting whiteboard paint on walls, small hanging whiteboards, static whiteboards, or better quality Smart boards.

Comments:

- New eRoom lites, like C1015, are better than the COWs but not all faculty have laptops.
- Change the smaller classrooms that 3rd & 4th year student use to do more collaborative work in and perhaps keep the bigger ones for lecture
- Have low scale surface tablets for faculty to book for their classes
- Require students to have standard computers. This might be added to the schedule to alert the students when they are signing up for classes.
- Buying a laptop can be included in a student loan
- Students can lease a laptop from IT pre-loaded with all the software they might need
- Students with their own devices can rent software from IT

4. Upcoming Renovations or Projects

- A. A proposal was submitted to the BC Government for a digital upgrade for classrooms on both CEP & ABB campuses.
- B. A proposal was submitted to the BC Government to create a learning space for faculty in the Teaching & Learning Centre. This space will offer collaboration between faculty and Ed Techs to work on courses.
- C. Maureen Wideman was informed by Jackie Hogan that there is a little more money from the BC Government to use on infrastructure projects. The committee did some brainstorming and came up with the following ideas:
 - Whiteboards in classrooms
 - Put wiring in C1015 & G113 so a computer can be added at a later date
 - Video Conference set ups nA225 and A229

Action Item: Ed Visser will look into using classrooms, A261 and C1422 to install different whiteboard products in each and find out how students like them.

Next meeting
April 13, 2015
9:30 am – 11 am
A225