

Learning Environment Advisory Group

Minutes
September 28, 2016
9:30 am – 11 am, A225

Chair: Maureen Wideman
Attendees: Gordon Jang, Ed Visser, Frank Ulbrich, Vera White Phipps, Greg Davis, Craig Toews, Shelley Young, Linda Parady, Dean Christensen, Sukhi Brar, Thanh Ma
Regrets: Heather Compeau, Betty Poettcker, Janice Johnson, Bryan Wilkinson, Eddie Campbell, Joanna Sheppard

1. **Adoption of Agenda**
September 28, 2016 **Approved**
2. **Adoption of Minutes**
April 2016 **Approved**

3. **Pedagogy Fund Update** – Maureen Wideman

The Provost has awarded 1.5 million towards new teaching & learning initiatives at UFV. Some of the projects currently underway are:

- New tables with casters in specified rooms on the CEP and Abbotsford Campuses. Also looking into moveable chairs but this won't happen yet as there is a possibility of an injury. Maureen handed out copies of the spreadsheet showing which rooms will receive the tables and chairs. (see page 5)
- Many classrooms are being outfitted with more whiteboards and C1015 will be piloting some hanging removable whiteboards. Maureen handed out a memo showing which rooms will be getting whiteboards on the Abbotsford and CEP campuses. (see pgs. 6-7)
- An HP 2.0 touchscreen computer was installed in A233 (eRoom lite) as a pilot to see if this is a good replacement for the COWs. This new touchscreen computer is mounted on an arm that can accommodate a faculty member who is sitting or standing. The response to this new computer has been very positive and Maureen encouraged everyone to demo it when they get a chance.

4. **eRooms at UFV** – Greg Davis

Greg reported that UFV is looking to upgrade the podiums in the full eRooms on the Abbotsford and want to get smaller podiums or eliminate them altogether.

Greg showed a presentation on different generations of podiums that were and are currently being used at UFV (see pages 8-16). The older podiums were large and fastened to the floor and needed a power pole for the wiring. Some of the newer podiums are small, lockable, and moveable but still need a large power cord or a power pole for wiring.

The newest model of podium is an all-in-one touch-screen computer attached to the wall with a moveable arm that raises and lowers the screen to accommodate any type of user. A wireless presenter can be used by faculty from anywhere in the room which will accommodate all teaching styles. Anyone can test this new model in room A233 on the Abbotsford campus and send Greg any feedback you might have greg.davis@ufv.ca

Comments from the committee:

- give all faculty wireless presenters as standard teaching equipment
- teaching spaces should dictate non-lecture formats
- do a survey on teaching with technology
- encourage more teaching staff to teach in a non-lecture style
- from a student's point of view, they don't really enjoy learning in a lecture format anymore
- use more online classes because they offer flexibility in learning
- faculty today should not be using VHS anymore – we should be way past that
- students also have to take more ownership in learning in active learning classrooms

5. Guiding Principles – (see TOR pgs. 19-20)

Maureen read the guiding principles from the Terms of Reference. She reminded the committee that these help us in the decisions we make. Changes need to happen and LEAG can be change ambassadors and our role can be helping people learn this.

Some suggestions from the committee:

- post a co-curricular record position to sit on the LEAG committee
- don't use the top-down approach and invite faculty to talk about what their needs are
- increase faculty and student membership on the LEAG committee
- schedule a survey to go out to all students and add questions on learning environments

If anyone has any thoughts or comments on the guiding principles, please email them to Maureen Maureen.wideman@ufv.ca

6. Other Business

No other business to report.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 am

Next meeting

February 22, 2017

9:30 am - 11 am

A225