



TO: Mike Farrell, Secretary of Senate
FROM: John Sivell, Department of Applied Linguistics
Chair, Teaching and Learning Policy Committee (2007-8)
RE: Teaching and Learning Policy Committee – 2007-8 Annual Report
DATE: 5 May, 2008

Over the course of the 2007-8 academic year, the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee dealt with a number of issues that were advanced to it for consideration, including:

- recommendation of Senate endorsement for the Best Practices for the Evaluation of Teaching document, as posted on the Center for Teaching, Learning and Educational Technologies website
- new Student Medical Certificate
- revised Faculty Handbook section on Literacy and Numeracy
- a tentative new autumn-term scheduling plan to accommodate courses with physical lab components
- recommendation that the Director of the Center for Teaching, Learning and Educational Technologies present a report to Senate outlining the potential strengths, weaknesses, costs, and transitional issues with respect to available Learning Management System options
- Brock 2014 Academic Plan document
- discussion of the draft Academic Integrity Policy
- the use of virtual seminars
- the 0-2-5-8 grading spectrum
- the Library's new liaison system for purchasing materials (warmly endorsed by the Committee)

The Committee also monitored the progress of work towards a consistent policy on risk-management, as developed by the Academic and Student Risk Management Advisory Committee, which at this time is still being finalized. As well, the Committee discussed the issue of the designation of new context courses, an item that was referred by Senate to the Committee of Academic Deans.

The items regarding Context Courses, the schedule for the beginning of the autumn term, and the Risk Evaluation policy were matters that had been considered by the Committee in the previous academic year and were forwarded for completion this year.

Chief among issues still under consideration, which will in all likelihood require attention from the Committee next year, are the question of procedures for defining new Context Courses, the Risk Management Policy, and the grading spectrum.

Finally, I would like to thank Committee members for their diligent and thoughtful work throughout the academic year, and Margaret Thompson for her invaluable administrative assistance.