The Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching met on September 15, 2015, October 15, 2015, December 9, 2015, February 16, 2016 and April 6, 2016. The committee is scheduled to meet again on May 12, 2016.

Examination of Effective Practices in Teaching Evaluation

The Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching played a central role when the university adopted a universal tool to evaluate teaching at the university. Since that time, the committee has monitored the use of the Course Experience Survey. At the December meeting, the committee initiated an examination of effective practices in teaching evaluation, upon recommendation of the Office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost and the Learning and Teaching Centre. A sub-committee was established to examine effective practices in teaching evaluation and make recommendations regarding the development of resources that faculties and departments can draw on to conduct teaching evaluations. The sub-committee met regularly between December and April. Updates were provided to the committee at each of its meetings. A report outlining recommendations from the sub-committee will be presented to the committee at its May meeting. The committee will continue to work on this issue over the course of 2016/17.

Educational Technology in the Classroom

At its September 2014 meeting, the committee determined that one priority for the 2014/15 academic year would be to work towards developing guidelines for the use of educational technology and applications by university instructors in the classroom. In particular, the committee was concerned with providing guidance in relation to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. To support this initiative, the committee formed a working group, which worked on development of a proposal over the course of the year. Throughout 2015/16, the Chief Privacy Officer refined the proposal to meet legal, academic and administrative requirements. A draft proposal was presented to the committee for feedback at its February meeting. The proposal outlined an approach to assist instructors in considering the use of educational technology in the classroom and their obligation...
under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The proposal is being finalized for presentation to Senate in Fall 2016.

**Report from the Course Experience Survey (CES) Advisory Committee**

At its October and April meetings, the committee received a report from the CES Advisory Committee. In October, the committee reviewed a report on the statistical properties of the online course experience survey. Committee members asked questions about average scores and response rates following implementation of the online survey. Information was provided about protection of personal information, in particular with respect to graduate students enrolled in small classes. In April, the committee received a report on participation rates and initiatives underway to increase participation. The committee also received information about a tool being developed for teaching assistants. Committee members discussed the timelines for completion of the survey each term.

**Learning Outcomes**

At the April meeting, the committee received information about an initiative being undertaken by the Office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost to gather information about departmental-level learning outcomes across the university. Information was provided about the range of learning outcomes in place across departments, how departmental learning outcomes might be linked to the broader university-level learning outcomes, and what goals might be set for the university with respect to communicating learning outcomes.

**Presentations related to committee business**

**Open Access Publishing**

At the October meeting, Ms. Lisa Goddard delivered a presentation on open access publishing. She provided information about open access mandates; rationales for the move to open access publishing; benefits and challenges; and opportunities for UVic faculty and students.

**Registrarial Challenges Related to Learning and Teaching**

At the October meeting, Ms. Wendy Taylor, Associate Registrar joined committee members to engage in a discussion of registrarial challenges related to learning and teaching. Committee members discussed issues such as add/drop deadlines, assigning dates to register, and student motivations with respect to registration.

**Educational Technology Teaching and Learning Report**

At the December meeting, Dr. Aragon provided information about a report being prepared regarding the use of educational technology at the university. She reported on the process being undertaken, which included extensive interviews with
faculty and staff. Dr. Aragon shared preliminary findings. The committee expects to receive a final report on the findings in 2016/17.

Active learning classrooms

At the February meeting, Dr. Aragon gave a presentation on the active learning classrooms on campus. She described what was available on campus and discussed what benefits and opportunities were offered by active learning spaces. Committee members commented on their experiences using the active learning classrooms. In response to questions, Dr. Aragon provided information about recent changes made in response to classroom use. She also provided some information about optimal class size in these spaces. Dr. Aragon provided information about plans to consider renovation of other classrooms on campus. In February and March, the committee was led on tours of active learning classrooms.

Report from the Learning and Teaching Centre
The committee received regular reports from the Learning and Teaching Centre on the major initiatives of the Centre.

Respectfully submitted,

2015/2016 Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching
Janni Aragon (Chair), Social Sciences
Rizwan Bashir, Convocation Senator
Nav Bassi, Acting Chief Information Officer
Andreas Bergen, GSS representative
Sarah Blackstone, Advisor to the Provost, Special Projects (President’s nominee)
Lee Brekstad, Student Senator
Peter Driessen, Faculty of Engineering
Steve Evans, Graduate Studies
Dale Ganley, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business
Kathy Gaul, Faculty of Education
Valerie Gonzales, Alumni Association
Hayley Hewson, Technology Integrated Learning Centre
Ivelina Ivanova, Student Senator
Mark Laidlaw, Faculty of Science
David Leach, Faculty of Fine Arts
Annalee Lepp, Faculty of Humanities
Anna Lusk, UVSS representative
Kurt McBurney, Division of Medical Sciences
Norah McRae, Executive Director, Cooperative Education and Career Services
Caron Rollins, Library and Research Services
Richard Rush, Division of Continuing Studies
Laurene Shields, Acting Director, Learning and Teaching Centre
Katrina Woolgar, UVSS representative
Jin-Sun Yoon, Faculty of Human and Social Development
Carrie Andersen (Secretary), Office of the University Secretary