



MEMORANDUM

To: Executive Committee of Faculty Council (November 29, 2018)
Faculty Council (December 18, 2018)

From: Professor Lisa Romkey
Chair, Teaching Methods and Resources

Date: November 15, 2018

Re: Teaching Methods and Resources Committee Goals for 2018-19

REPORT CLASSIFICATION

This is a routine or minor policy 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 2018-19 were created collaboratively by all members of the Teaching Methods and Resources Committee. The committee voted to approve the goals in early November 2018, and every committee member has aligned themselves with at least one of the four goals listed below.

COMMITTEE GOALS

1. Onboarding of new faculty members

At the end of the 2017-18 academic year, the committee met with faculty hired in the last three years, and identified a number of challenges and gaps in the onboarding process. It is proposed that the TMRC develop a best practices guide for onboarding new faculty, after investigating best practices in Faculties/units.

2. The use of teaching evaluations in promotion, tenure and PTR

Last year, the committee met with department chairs to determine how course evaluations are used in the promotion, tenure and PTR processes in our various departments and institutes. Through this process, a number of discrepancies were identified. The TMRC will continue this work and develop a set of recommendations for consideration by department chairs, to encourage consistency and fairness across the Faculty.

3. Five-year review of the online course evaluations

It's been five years since the University introduced the online course evaluations. The committee will investigate participation rates and other statistics, the perception and use of our divisional questions, and more generally perceptions of the system from our students, instructors and teaching assistants.

4. Assessment Practices

Given the Graduate Attributes and new insights on student assessment, the committee will investigate the link between assessment type and knowledge/skill development in engineering, and suggest alternatives to traditional tests and examinations that might be considered.

Routine Committee Items:

1. Identify trends, gaps and needs with respect to instructor professional development, and liaise with ISTEP, CTSI and other groups to ensure needs are met.
2. Select the teaching award winners and promote the teaching awards across the Faculty.
3. Review and update the committee manual to reflect current practice, new members and key priorities.

PROPOSAL/MOTION

For information.