

# Proposal to Repurpose the Teaching & Learning Faculty Committee

**Issue:** Technology is an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Both faculty and students use it daily, and each year new tools appear and old tools are improved. It is important for faculty to make intentional efforts to stay abreast of the innovative ways to enhance our pedagogy and improve our research using technology.

Currently, there is no standing faculty committee that addresses faculty use of technology relative to teaching and learning. While there are groups on campus committed to supporting faculty as they learn to effectively integrate technology (e.g., the Technology & Learning Group), the expertise of these groups is underutilized as partnerships with faculty are inconsistent. Professional development activities related to technology, changes in technology on campus, and best practices with respect to technology need to be systematically and effectively shared across the college. It is necessary to have a systematic mechanism in place, via a faculty committee, not only to regularly address the use of technology in teaching in learning, but also to provide an avenue with which technology support staff (e.g., Technology & Learning Group) and faculty can partner. From this committee, division representatives can serve as liaisons to their respective academic divisions, communicating important topics related to technology and bridging the gap between faculty and technology support groups.

Additionally, the current Teaching & Learning Committee has been on temporary hiatus because the original tasks of the committee have been either completed or redirected to other university constituents.

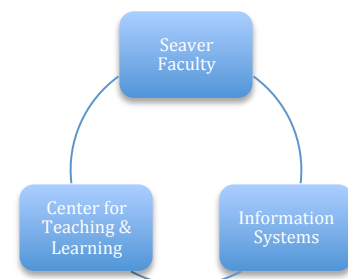
**Proposal:** To repurpose the Teaching & Learning Committee, and to include technology into **its name and new mission.**

New Committee Name: **Teaching, Learning, & Technology**

Mission: To support faculty in developing effective instructional techniques that will enhance the learning experience for all students, while discussing and highlighting the integration of technology in the process.

The Committee is a bridge between the academic divisions and the University departments committed to the advancement of teaching, learning, and technology. These include:

- Seaver Faculty
- The Center for Teaching and Learning
  - Student Success
  - Library Services
- Information Systems
  - The Technology & Learning (TechLearn) Group
  - Educational Technology Users Group (ETUG)



The Committee will discuss the needs and expectations of faculty to enhance the quality of teaching, learning, and technology as it is related to students' academic experiences. The Committee will identify issues related to pedagogy, learning outcomes, and instructor support associated with instructional technology.

Responsibilities of the Committee include the following tasks, both separately and collectively:

#### **TEACHING:**

- 1) Engaging in a discussion of best practices which are grounded in the scholarship of teaching and learning
- 2) Highlighting innovative practices from various disciplines with respective divisions
- 3) Discussing updates and modifications of course evaluations

#### **LEARNING:**

- 1) Partnering with/acting as liaison to the Center for Teaching & Learning to support the diverse learning needs of students
- 2) Assessing how course evaluations address or capture data about student learning outcomes

#### **TECHNOLOGY:**

- 1) Discussing technology adoptions, systems, and enhancements that are related to the teaching and learning needs of the academic divisions
- 2) Partnering with/acting as liaison to the Technology & Learning (TechLearn) Group & Information Systems
- 3) Sharing monthly tech tips with faculty in all academic divisions

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

The Committee will consist of the following members:

- One representative from each division of Seaver College
- The Director of the Center for Teaching & Learning (ex-officio)
- One representative from the Department of Information Systems (ex-officio)
- One representative from Payson Library

Members will serve a two-year staggered term.

#### **CURRENT DESCRIPTION OF TEACHING & LEARNING COMMITTEE:**

##### **Teaching and Learning Committee**

Develops methods to assess the educational value of the general education curriculum, helps divisions assess the quality of their majors, and administers the student evaluations of the faculty, including considerations of modifications of the evaluations and use of the evaluations. Members selected by the executive committee to serve two-year staggered terms.