Transforming the Instructional Landscape (TIL) Advisory Committee
May 16, 2021, 10-11:30am
Innovation Hub, Student Commons – 230 College Street, Room 300 OR Microsoft Teams

Meeting Notes
Chair: Dwayne Benjamin, Vice-Provost, Strategic Enrolment Management

1. Revised TIL Advisory Terms of Reference – Group Review & Feedback

The group reviewed the terms of reference together. Suggestions/Comments:

- Caution: we don't yet fully understand online teaching and impacts on quality of education – consider noting this explicitly.
    - This goes beyond the TIL mandate – TIL's focus is classroom space and the classroom experience. It does not advise on online learning.
- It is essential for the members of the TIL Advisory to be *advisory* – providing real input and advice; not a one-way channel of information from organizers to members.
- Physical space and technology are integrated. We can no longer consider one without the other.
    - Acknowledge the intersection of classroom + virtual/digital but recognize limitations of scope. A discussion of (just) Teams/Zoom is beyond scope, since the mandate of TIL is to focus on physical classroom space. But a discussion of Teams/Zoom as it is used in physical classroom spaces is within scope. Define what classroom tech means.
- Coordination with other University committees should be embedded more deeply in the mandate. We are part of a bigger picture. Do we need to be more structured about our collaborations?
- Make clear where this committee sits in terms of function, dialogue and coordination with other groups and those working at higher levels.
- Rephrase "LSM managed space" – excludes UTM and UTSC.
- Membership:
    - Choosing instructors only from the T&L community may not be the best approach. They will be able to speak to their own experience, but not divisional strategy. The vantage point of an academic leader is important.
    - Rename "Instructional Community" to "Teaching and Learning Community" to allow for the appointment of academic leaders as well as instructors.
    - The Advisory should also include the University Registrar.
    - The Advisory has limited membership, but can convene working groups as needed. Working group membership can include those outside the Advisory.
    - Create a procedures document covering when and how to establish a working group?
- Accessibility/Universal Design/Equity should be at the forefront. Classroom tech should support different student needs.
    - Include someone from Accessibility.
    - Apply best practices in an equitable way. People should not be disadvantaged because of where they teach. This is an important point for small unit faculties, especially.

ACTION: The ToR will be revised based on the received feedback, and circulated.

2. Tech2U Pilot Update – Fall/Winter 2021-22 Report

- Julia Allworth provided an update on the Fall/Winter 2021-22 Tech2U Pilot *(slide deck in the accompanying email)*.
- **ACTION:** The Tech2U pilot is currently undergoing a review to determine how best to move forward in the 2022-23 academic year.
- Pending the results of the review (to be completed in summer 2022), **possible next steps** are to increase collaborations with the EdTech community, increase instructor awareness, improve operational efficiency, establish key program metrics, and develop a new training curriculum for students.

3. ThinkHub

- Steve Bailey presented on ThinkHub, a vendor software that supports an improved video wall layout in Myhal 150 *(slide deck in the accompanying email)*.
- **DISCUSSION**: what tech features of Myhal 150 can we replicate elsewhere, to increase access across the University? Myhal is restricted to a limited number of instructors, who teach classes of 500+. There is real need for similar, smaller-scale classrooms – in the 200-person size, for example. While there is no question that the investments in Myhal 150 are valuable, it is a lot of money for one classroom – should the money be spread more equitably across other classrooms, so that a greater number of instructors benefit?