Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

DATE: January 2010

TO: Associate VP (Academic)

FROM: Vi Maeers (Director, Teaching and Learning)

RE: CTL Key Priorities for 2009 - 2010

Major goals for CTL for 2009-2010, cross-referenced to a specific section of mamawohkamatowin: Our Work, Our People, Our Communities Strategic Plan 2009-2014.

CTL integrates the mandates of the Teaching Development Centre and the Centre for Academic Technologies, reports to, and is informed by, a new committee called the University Committee on Teaching and Learning (UCTL), and reports to the Associate VP Academic. The following priorities have still to be brought forward to UCTL for consultation.

Our Work

1. Research and disseminate the efficacy of innovative and emerging teaching practices (with and without technology), new media tools, resources, and delivery formats in face-to-face classroom environments and in alternative delivery environments. (A1, A4, A5, A6, B2, B3, B4, B5, C1)

2. Determine and implement best practices to support, promote and celebrate excellence in teaching, including sustainable teaching practices, in face-to-face classroom environments and in alternative delivery environments. (A1, A5, A6, B2, B3, B5, C1)
Our People

3. Work with colleagues at First Nations University to advise on alternative delivery course/program planning, and to consult on special learning considerations to be addressed through alternative delivery courses. (A6; B1; C2)

4. Work with the staff of Disability Resource Office to create faculty awareness of, and support for, students with disability and accessibility needs, both face-to-face and in alternative delivery environments. (B2; B3)

5. Work with the Archer Library staff and those colleagues involved in the University Engagement Centre to create a public awareness of the work of CTL and to offer, in a more public space—physical and virtual (like a kiosk approach), an accessible means for supporting instructors in their teaching. (A1; B2; B3; B4; C3)

6. Work with Information Services, Disability Resource Office, International Student Support Centre, Aboriginal Student Centre, Student Affairs, and other groups to advise on a physical and/or virtual “one stop shop” for students who need help with their learning. (A1; B1; B2; B3; B6; C2; C3)

Our Communities

7. Work through UCTL, and with External Relations, to plan and publicise teaching and learning opportunities (e.g., online peer-reviewed journal, TEL Showcase, teaching and learning conference, online course on teaching and learning, etc) which will showcase examples of excellence in teaching, engaging our campus, our community (including alumni), our partner institutions, and beyond (e.g., nationally and internationally) and to publicize these opportunities in multiple formats (e.g., face-to-face, on YouTube, ustream, journal articles, etc) synchronously and asynchronously. (A1; A6; B5; C1)

8. Work with the Distance Learning Division and the faculties (including the Federated Colleges) to carve out niche online learning markets, including the creation of introductory credit and non credit online classes for students from afar - especially from India and China, such that students can ‘take’ these classes in order to get a sense of being a student at U of R (much like MIT online does). (B2; C1; C3)