

Lakehead

Memorandum

To: Karen Roche, Secretary of Senate

From: Florin Pendea, Chair, Senate Academic Information Technologies Committee

Re: Report of the Senate Academic Information Technologies Committee for October 21st, 2013 Senate Meeting

Date: October 7th, 2013

The Senate Academic Information Technologies Committee met on September 25th, 2013. The workload for this meeting consisted of three main items: the chair election, updates on current improvements to teaching infrastructure, and future action on improvements to the functionality/infrastructure of teaching and research technology across the university. These items are summarised below. Questions concerning items can be directed to the chair via email ifpendea@lakeheadu.ca or telephone ext. # 2653.

Items pertaining to the October 21st Senate Meeting

Items for information

1. Chair Election

Following several unsuccessful attempts to elect a chair during the 2012/2013 academic year, Dr. Florin Pendea agreed to let his name stand for the Senate Academic Information Technologies Committee Chair and was elected by acclamation.

2. Updates on current improvements to the university-wide teaching infrastructure

Mr. Bernie Blake, representative of the Technology Services Centre, informed the committee that the university is currently undergoing improvements to the telepresence system, namely improvements to the bridging of core infrastructure. Polycom Bell is the company that won the tender and the work is in its testing phase.

Items for discussionFuture action on improvements to the functionality/infrastructure of technology used for teaching and research

In order to assess the strengths and weaknesses of administrative systems currently in use, the Senate Academic Information Technologies Committee recommends that the chairs of each department or school meet with their faculty members and summarize responses to the following questions:

- What equipment and technology they currently use?
- What are the barriers and challenges?
- What would Faculty want to use in the future?

Collated summaries from each Faculty will be forwarded to the Senate Academic Information Technologies Committee. The committee will examine the responses and identify trends or common threads that might be used to improve the functionality/infrastructure of technology used for teaching or research across the university. This information will be discussed by the committee, summarized, and recommendations for action will be brought to the Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Florin Pendea,
Chair, Senate Academic Information Technologies Committee