

Board of Management

Learning & Teaching Committee

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 22 November 2022
Paper No.	LTC2-C
Agenda Item	4.3
Subject of Paper	Learning and Teaching Update
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	Dr Claire Carney
Date of production	November 2022
Action	For Discussion and Decision

1. Recommendations

1.1 The Committee is asked to note and discuss key elements of Learning and Teaching update.

2. Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an update on progress on Learning and Teaching delivery.

3. Consultation

3.1 The contents and substance of the paper have been developed, discussed and reviewed with the Student Experience Group (Deans and Director of Student Experience, the Digital Transformation Group, the Associate Dean Forum, and the relevant working groups.

4. Key Insights

The following sections highlight key Learning and Teaching updates and developments :

- **Virtual Learning Environment (VLE):** Canvas, our new Virtual Learning Environment has been successfully rolled out across the College. The project was delivered on time and under budget and a formal closure report has been conducted. Canvas offers an opportunity not only to move to a more intuitive and robust learning management system but also to engage the campus community in valuable conversations about how it can advance teaching goals, expand learning activities, improve assessment strategies, and encourage collaborations and the foster pedagogical innovations in all we deliver. Whilst the formal project is complete, staff development work will continue to ensure Canvas is fully optimised across all areas.
- **Portfolio review:** In line with the Student Academic Experience Strategy, every Faculty is reviewing its portfolio to ensure delivery of a relevant work- related portfolio meeting employer and sectoral demands ensuring equality, diversity and inclusivity and integrate sustainability and environmental impact management. The review will: create a suite of interdisciplinary/cross faculty courses; develop a suite of accredited Short courses/microcredentials; develop clear pathways with several entry/ exit points to careers/further study and provide relevant work placement, work related, work readiness and entrepreneurial/ enterprising opportunities across all courses. The review is being conducted considering changed Faculty structures and expected further reductions in credits..
- **Structure of the Academic Year:** The Vice Principal Student Experience is leading a project to restructure the academic year from 3 blocks to 2 semesters and accompanying reduction in global course hours at FE and HE levels. Because of the far-reaching complications and the sensitivities of the work a set of key principles have been defined and include:
 - o Maintain and enhance **quality of learning and teaching** through use of Active, Blended and Connected
 - o A model that **develops students** who can adapt and thrive in an increasingly changing world, can flourish in a modern blended and digital working environment. (linked with City Attributes work below)
 - o The college calendar once agreed will incorporate **Flexibility**. Course teams will work within a certain amount of total weeks and global hours and will define thereafter allocation of hours to units.

A working group has been formed and consultation events have been held with key groups to socialise and gather feedback. Work must be complete by end January 2023 for implementation in academic year 23/24. If approved, it will impact across all student related systems and deliver an educational delivery model in keeping with student expectations and development.

- **Learning & Teaching Conference:** The L&T conference is scheduled for 7 March 2023. The Theme of the conference will be about changed delivery patterns and reimagining L&T delivery, focussing on curriculum design, delivery and methods. The conference is being held in inter-block week allowing all teaching staff to attend and is designed to support staff in reviewing new delivery patterns for 23/24 and onwards..
- **City Attributes:** The work on City attributes continues and is linked with changed delivery methods and the ABC of Learning. A working group is in place with a cross representation from Faculty and Support. The group is currently in the process of finalising draft framework of "City Student Attributes" and will consult with key industry stakeholders, faculties and students for feedback. Key to developing a framework is

the mechanism in which to embed, evidence and assess within student course work. The work undertaken so far has demonstrated Canvas has the ability to support evidencing attributes and we have planned to pilot across NQ Photography and NQ Sport Fitness. Moreover, an application to NCFE for funding was made to support lecturer time in piloting evidencing and assessing attributes. The application has successfully progressed to the final stage and we will learn of the outcome at the end of November 22.

- **Learning Spaces:** Work on 3 identified rooms for 'push pull' technology will begin 28 November. These rooms will be piloted and will go on Timetable for academic year 23/24. Once again, this is part of the SAES objectives and aimed at developing high impact, collaborative activities on campus.

5. Impact and Implications

5.1 Continual enhancement of L&T is a key aspect of the SAES. A key impact is improving the student learning experience.

5.2 The College will continue to invest in digital transformation and staff development to ensure we are positioned to deliver the SAES and enhance the student experience.