

Board of Management Learning & Teaching Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 14 February 2023
Paper No.	LTC3-H
Agenda Item	5.1
Subject of Paper	Learning and Teaching Academy Update
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	Derek Robertson, Associate Director, LTA
Date of production	27 January 2023
Action	For Noting

1. Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note this report.

2. Purpose

This paper is to give a short update on the activity of the Learning and Teaching Academy (LTA) in academic year 2021-22 and highlights the main activity in the first half of 2022-23.

3. Consultation

N/A

4. Key Insights

The Learning and Teaching Academy supports three main functions within the College: Lecturer Development, Learning Technology and the Library Service.

2.1 Lecturer Development

In 2021-22:

- 26 candidates passed the TQFE programme.
- 20 candidates enrolled for PDA in Teaching Practice in Scotland's Colleges (12 CoGC and 8 external). 10 CoGC candidates passed (with 2 leaving the College) and 7 external candidates passed (with 1 deferring due to ill health)
- 23 lecturers enrolled in First Steps into Teaching. 10 completed the course with withdrawal due to lack of renewal of bank staff contract or transfer to PDA.
- 27 lecturers enrolled on the Lecturer Integration programme. This was from a total of 47 who were invited to join. Where a reason was provided, Lecturers who did not enrol on the course cited heavy workload and fact that course was not compulsory as reason not to participate.
- Members of the team organised and supported the College's Learning and Teaching Conference (June 2022)
- Members of the team delivered 64 learning and teaching workshops.

2.2 Learning Technology

In 2021-22 the focus of the Learning Technology team was mostly on supporting the implementation of our new VLE, Canvas. The team:

- Developed a template for Canvas courses (including some faculty variations)
- Facilitated the automatic creation of course spaces within Canvas
- Supported staff in the transition of material from Moodle to Canvas
- Integrated external tools such as O365, Turnitin, Click View, Ebsco (library discovery) and YouTube into Canvas
- Procured Blackboard Ally (accessibility checking and reporting software) and Panopto (video platform) to support blended learning. These tools integrate closely with Canvas.
- Developed whole college training (both face to face and online) for staff around move to Canvas running more than 120 training workshops attended by 631 participants
- Launched online training for all students on Canvas (including road-testing with users)

In addition, the team:

- continued to offer a support service across existing learning technology tools, such as Moodle and SoLAR, including dealing with around 1500 helpdesk queries

- supported the development of 29 Blended Learning Fund projects and created a BLF showcase site.
- Supported the refresh of 'Get into College' pre- and post-induction sites.

2.3 Library Service

The Library Service:

- Worked on the development of the library collection focussing on digital content
- Supported the installation, management and evaluation of the Visual Learning Lab, a networked learning space on Level 3 of City campus library that supports hybrid teaching
- Worked with Student Support and IT to develop a laptop loan process and oversaw the distribution of student loan laptops from Level 3 of the City campus library
- Delivered 107 information literacy sessions, face to face and online, across the curriculum areas
- Launched a new Discovery service and updated and developed online support material (LibGuides)

2.4 Academic year 2022-23

In the first half of this academic year the LTA has continued to support our formal accredited pathways for lecturer development, with 20 students enrolling on TQFE and 25 starting the PDA programme. In addition, the PDA is being delivered externally to the Scottish Prison Service College. The Lecturer Development team has also lead on planning for the College's Learning and Teaching Conference on 7 March 2023.

In addition to supporting the implementation of Canvas the learning technology team has overseen the development of three active learning classrooms with new touchscreen presenter displays, student collaboration screens and camera and audio equipment to support hybrid teaching where some participants are on site and some are online. These rooms will be evaluated in the second half of the academic year. In addition, we are looking at the development of collaborative learning spaces in the libraries.

5. Impact and Implications

N/A

Appendices

None