

# THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Provost and Vice President Academic

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May 10, 2010

To: All Members of the University Community

From: David H. Farrar, Provost and Vice President Academic

Re: **1. Update, Search for New Director for the Centre for Teaching and Learning (UBC Vancouver) and Senior Advisor, Teaching and Learning, and  
2. New Organizational Structure**

As you may know, for the past few months we have been engaged in the search for a new Director for the Centre for Teaching and Learning\* (CTL) and Senior Advisor, Teaching and Learning. Recently candidates participated in on-campus meetings and made presentations to faculty, staff and students, followed by a q&a session. At the conclusion of the campus itineraries, the search committee met to consider each candidacy in light of the full dossier of information, including the feedback from the campus community and reference reports. A recommendation was made to the Provost and Vice President Academic, and negotiations undertaken. However, due to personal reasons the selected candidate declined the offer. In the circumstances it was necessary to consider alternate arrangements for this leadership position.

Throughout the search process it became clear that identifying individuals with the right mix of academic excellence and administrative management experience was challenging. This led us to consider carefully other possibilities. The Office of Learning Technology (OLT) and the CTL are both centrally involved in strengthening and supporting excellence in teaching and learning and, as we considered interim leadership, it became apparent that an exciting opportunity to bring the two units together in a new organizational structure had presented itself. The new structure will be named the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology (CTLT) and will be co-led by an Academic Director and a Managing Director. The Academic Director will also serve as Senior Advisor, Teaching and Learning. The primary responsibilities of these roles are outlined in the attached document.

I am pleased to announce that, effective July 1, 2010, Dr. Harry Hubball will take on the role of Senior Advisor, Teaching and Learning and Academic Director *pro tem*, CTLT, and Dr. Michelle Lamberson will take on the role of Managing Director, CTLT.

Dr. Hubball is an Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy, Faculty of Education. His research focuses on the scholarship of learning, teaching and curriculum reform in higher education contexts; he has won several awards including the prestigious 3M National Teaching Award, and UBC's Killam Teaching Prize. He has led initiatives in CTL including the UBC Faculty Certificate Program for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. In this new role, Dr. Hubball will also serve as Director of the Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

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Dr. Lamberson has provided outstanding leadership to the OLT since her appointment as the first Director of Learning Technology at UBC in 2002, and will continue to do so while serving in this new role of Managing Director of the CTLT. Dr. Lamberson has extensive management and educational programming experience, and she successfully led the integration of distance education and learning technology. She has a PhD in Geology and continues to teach in that field.

Drs. Hubball and Lamberson will work together during the coming weeks to put in place the organizational structures that will create new synergies and advance the effectiveness and strengths of the two units in the new Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology.

I am immensely grateful to them both for agreeing to join with us in leading this new arrangement. We plan to re-advertise the position of Senior Advisor, Teaching and Learning, and Academic Director, CTLT in the fall and restart the search in a framework reflecting the new administrative arrangement.

\*formerly Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth (TAG)

## **Primary Responsibilities for:**

### **Senior Advisor, Teaching and Learning, and Academic Director, CTLT**

#### **Senior Advisor, Teaching and Learning**

- Support development of a vision and implementation strategy towards a greater synergy among teaching and learning initiatives distributed in UBC Vancouver.
- Provide leadership and guidance in the implementation of research-informed teaching and learning approaches; the evaluation of teaching and learning effectiveness; and the use of data for teaching and learning improvement.

#### **Academic Director, CTLT**

- Provide guidance to Faculties and university senior administration on the design and implementation of initiatives/practices/programs that support research-based approaches to teaching and learning.
- In collaboration with the managing Director and in consultation with the academic community, develop a flexible “faculty member professional development model” and support structures/strategies necessary for implementation, both centrally and in distributed ways, taking into account faculty career paths and the whole university context.
- Provide academic guidance for the review of the Centre’s existing offerings/initiatives; and advice on design and implementation of new programs/initiatives.
- Serve as the Director for the Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning
- In collaboration with the Managing Director and with appropriate consultation, review and adjust as appropriate, the existing budget model of the units located within the Centre to ensure that it best supports the university vision and priorities relating to the enhancement of learning and teaching.
- Provide academic support for the integration of OLT and CTL.
- Chair and/or serve on committees concerned with the advancement of teaching and learning (eg, TA Training Program Committee; SEoT Implementation Committee, TLEF Committee).

#### **Managing Director, CTLT**

- Oversee and manage business operations of the Centre.
- In collaboration with the Academic Director, lead the management of the integration of OLT and CTL.
- In collaboration with the Academic Director and appropriate consultation, review and adjust, as appropriate, the existing budget model of the units located within the Centre to ensure that it best supports the university vision and priorities related to the enhancement of learning and teaching.
- In collaboration with the Academic Director, support teaching and learning initiatives at UBC Vancouver through providing management guidance and support for the implementation of the Centre-based aspects of the faculty professional development model.
- In collaboration with the Academic Director and appropriate consultation, prepare implementation plan for programs/initiatives/activities that may need to be added, revised or discontinued, based on appropriate review.