



Recommendations for UBC, Faculties and Departments

These recommendations were informed by participant responses to a question asking what changes could be made at UBC to help them teach more effectively.

RECOMMENDATION #1

Develop a culture that values effective teaching as much as research.

“Research faculty currently have little to no incentive to improve their teaching. As long as teaching is not prioritized in tenure/promotion reviews, research faculty will continue to ignore it. Currently, as long as one is not a disaster in the classroom, it seems that anything goes.”

RECOMMENDATION #2

Reduce faculty workloads so more time can be devoted to teaching.

“Recognize/acknowledge/allocate/secure time for preparation, grading, faculty and student meetings. We are only recognized for face-to-face time with students yet expected to do the rest on our own time (e.g. update/change curriculum, respond to accreditation needs, prep meeting reports, time to learn new technology [Vista/Connect/Canvas], etc.).”

RECOMMENDATION #3

Provide more support and resources for teaching.

“More support for events that cut across faculties, to build interdisciplinary connections around teaching practice; more effort to ensure that faculty can gain support across the university without having to depend on what might—or might not—be available in the local Faculty.”

RECOMMENDATION #4

Reduce class sizes.

“Reduce class sizes, or at least cap them. While we are able to improve our teaching in large class sizes, the additional workload of the additional administrative load is absolutely prohibitive to any kind of work-life balance.”

RECOMMENDATION #5

Increase the number and capacity of classrooms; improve physical spaces.

“Invest in more classroom space. The inability to find appropriate classroom space at times that are consistent with faculty obligations has been bad for a while, but in the last two or three years has become completely unacceptable. If UBC wants us to teach, it should provide the classrooms for us to teach in.”

MORE INFORMATION

The Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology (CTLT) provides a variety of programs and services that support members of the UBC teaching and learning community at all stages of their careers.

For assistance with any of these recommendations, please contact ctltd.info@ubc.ca.