

ANNUAL REPORT

TEACHING AND LEARNING 2023 - 24

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY IS SITUATED IN THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE STÓ:LŌ PEOPLES. THE STÓ:LŌ HAVE AN INTRINSIC RELATIONSHIP WITH WHAT THEY REFER TO AS S'OLH TEMEXW (OUR SACRED LAND); WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE AND RESPECT FOR THE HONOUR OF LIVING AND WORKING IN THIS TERRITORY.

VISION

Teaching and Learning offers transformational experiences that engage and provoke learners and educators in lifelong, reciprocal learning. We nurture the development of a university culture that values continuous professional growth and promotes excellence and innovation in teaching and learning. Our vision is grounded in principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion and is committed to Indigenizing higher education.

MISSION

Teaching and Learning supports the goals of UFV by providing leadership, support and resources for the continuous advancement of evidence-based teaching.





MEET THE TEAM

TEACHING AND LEARNING 2023-24





Aweeet Sivia
Associate Vice President
Teaching & Learning



Ruby Ord
Assistant, AVP,
Teaching & Learning

Teaching & Learning

Supported Learning Groups

Specialists



Michelle Andrus
Events Coordinator

Learning Designers



Navneet Sidhu
Coordinator



Michael Fischer
Facilitator,
Learning Support




Lorna Andrews
Indigenization



Claire Hay
Learning Specialist



Leanne Joe
Indigenous
Curriculum Developer



Soowook Kim
Learning Designer



Courtney Boisvert
Learning Designer



Victoria Surtees
Internationalization



Michelle Johnson
Online & Digital
Pedagogy



Fizza Haider
Learning Designer

MESSAGE FROM DR. TRACY RYDER GLASS, VICE PROVOST, VP ACADEMIC



Congratulations to the Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) for their continued leadership as we, as a community, continue to evolve, learn, and engage in ways that we never thought were possible. I express my gratitude to the TLC team for their guidance and support in furthering innovative ways of pedagogy, classroom delivery, curriculum development, instructional design, and scholarly activity.

This past year TLC has also continued to grow in support of the needs of faculty and students in welcoming new employees in the areas of Indigenous Curriculum, Events, Learning Facilitation, and Learning Design. The team continues to work tirelessly in creating a professional home for faculty and instructors with opportunities to engage through communities of practice, and mentorship, with the goal of excellence in teaching.

In addition to the many one-on-one consultations, supported learning groups, and ongoing workshops, the TLC team has been actively engaged and has demonstrated leadership in Building Community Across Cultures (BCAC), the FLEX Project, and Learning Exchanges between Fraser Valley School District educators and UFV faculty and students.

With the ever-evolving virtual platform of course delivery and the evolution of AI tools before us, the TLC created the HOPE3 strategy. This strategy offers UFV faculty with useful guidelines for AI in post-secondary, online instructional guidelines, and accessibility standards for faculty to reference in developing and teaching courses. Launched in 2023, the work has created specific tools for faculty areas and an OLO guidelines project to launch in August 2024.

I also congratulate the TLC team on the completion of their aggressive plan in leading the revision of the Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs). Following Senate approval in October 2023, the team presented the new ILOs at UFV wide committees and delivered specialized workshops on how to effectively implement them. This work has resulted in a new Learning Outcomes Guide to be released in July 2024.

And of course the TLC leadership has not gone unrecognized by our external peers. Congratulations to Associate Vice-President, Dr. Awneet Sivia in her nomination for a YWCA Women of Distinction Award in recognition of her leadership that inspires passion for life-long learning in those around her, in motivating others to gain knowledge, set goals or seek opportunities and in being seen as a champion of academics, educators and administrators. And congratulations to Teaching and Learning Specialist Claire Hay in being awarded the prestigious J. Lewis Robinson Award for Meritorious Service from the Western Division, Canadian Association of Geographers in recognizing her exceptional professional service and significantly advancing the profession, practice or reputation of geography.

These are just two examples of the extraordinary leadership that exists within the TLC team. I congratulate TLC on their work this year and express my gratitude for their never-ending commitment to supporting our faculty and students.

MESSAGE FROM THE AVP

Community. Innovation. Reflection. Empowerment.

These are the driving values that define the work of the Teaching and Learning division which includes the TLC and SLG Program. In June 2023, during our annual retreat on the beautiful shores of Harrison Lake, we articulated these values into a vision for the year ahead. That vision has made for another incredible year of learning, teaching, and growing as a division.

Through flourishing Communities of Practice (CoPs), innovating learning designs in response to Artificial Intelligence (AI), promoting reflection as a key component of professional learning, and building capacities for taking risks and transforming teaching, we moved the needle forward on teaching and learning at UFV in significant ways. Over the past year, the dedicated and award-winning team of Learning Specialists, Curriculum Developers, Learning Designers, Coordinators, Facilitators, and Office Staff have made teaching and learning a “happening conversation” in the landscape of UFV.

This 2022-23 Annual Report documents our impactful work with a variety of groups and individuals, from one-to-one support to faculty-wide/university-wide interactions. Optimizing student success using evidence-informed teaching is the cornerstone of our vision here in Teaching and Learning. We continue to collaborate, inspire, and contribute to our mandate as a teaching-intensive institution, one-conversation, one action, and one idea at a time. As bell hooks (2004) reminds us, “the classroom remains the most radical space of possibility in the academy...urging all of us to open our minds and hearts so that we can know beyond the boundaries of what is acceptable, so that we can think and rethink, so that we can create new visions.”



ConnectED

2023 May

The first annual **ConnectED 2023 Teaching and Learning Conference** was a huge success. The conference started with the 3M National Teaching Fellows Keynote Panel (Drs. Cheeptham, Daniels, Bruni-Bossio, and Thangarajah) who shared insights about excellence in teaching in higher education. The sessions were categorized into micro-teach, scholarship of teaching and learning, world café, and teaching and learning experience. Presenters and participants were invited to a day for building connections, engaging in teaching and learning experiences, and creating opportunities for transforming education. For UFV educators, this conference placed the spotlight back on our primary mandate as a teaching intensive institution and encouraged attendees to connect across disciplines and with the TLC team. There were many positive outcomes from ConnectED 2023, including the formalization of CoPs, a Fall Forum, and a renewed excitement to engage in SoTL.

Join us for a Teaching and Learning Day

CONNECTED
2023

TEACH
LEARN
TRANSFORM

Thursday, April 27, 2023
(9am - 3pm)



AccessAbility Awareness Event (AAE)



2023 JUNE

June 1st marked a day to acknowledge challenges and barriers and reimagine how to make UFV a more accessible teaching, learning, and working environment. As part of National AccessAbility Week, the TLC partnered with CAS to engage the UFV community in a day of events to raise awareness and provide strategies. Over 80 attendees joined the online sessions throughout the day.

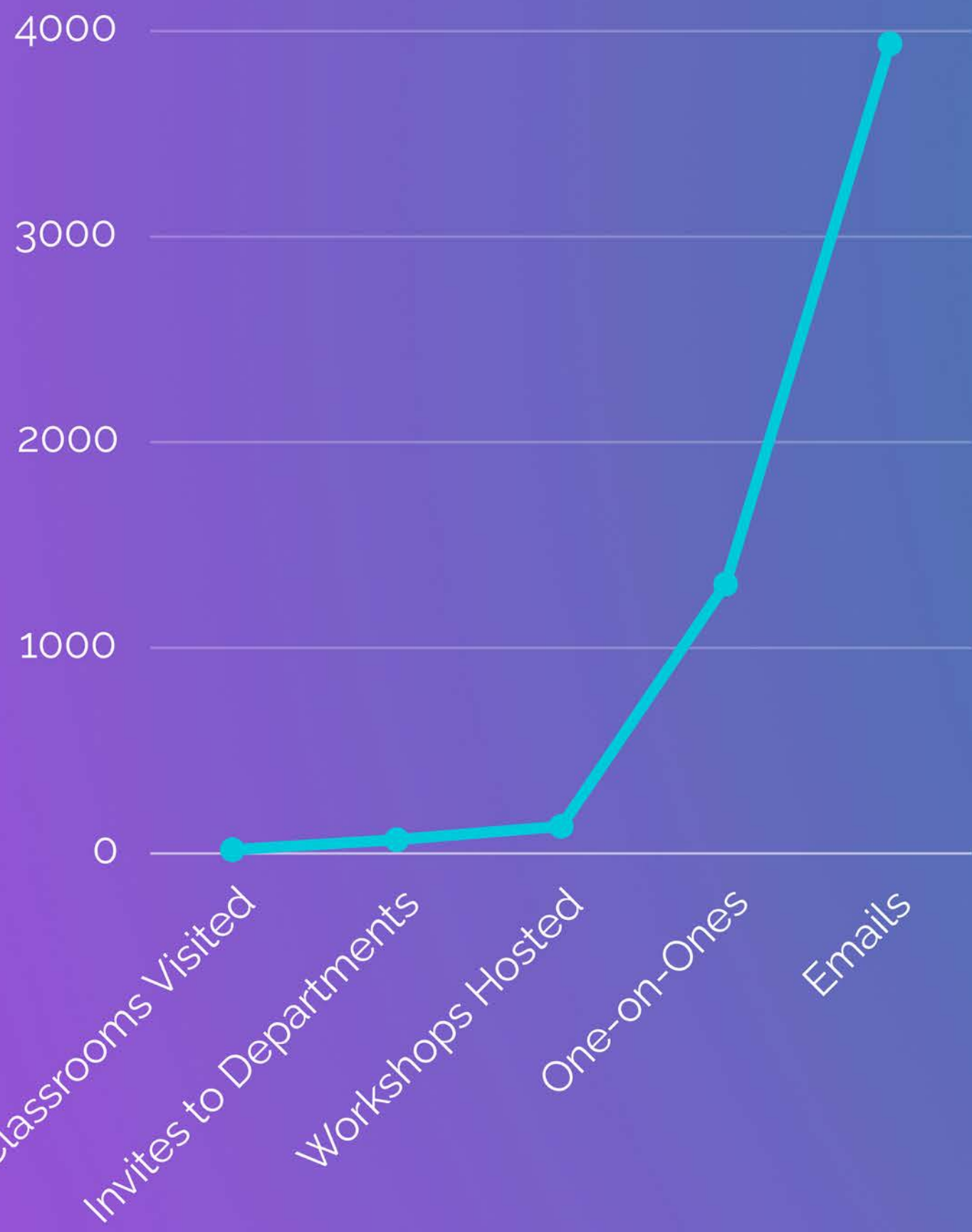
Shape of the Day

- Keynote 1: "Accessibility and Learning: Future Students Panel" (Abbotsford Gr. 12 Student Panel)
- Accessibility Toolkit (strengths based approaches)
- EDI Director: "Accessibility Legislation - What does this mean for UFV?"
- Drop-in for Ted Talk viewing and resources in TLC
- TLC Team: "3 Top Tips - Accessible Documents, POUR Strategy, Accessible Presentations"
- Keynote 2: "Rethinking just about everything" (Jess Mitchell, Senior Manager, Inclusive Design Research Centre, OCAD)



User Statistics for AskTLC

- Classrooms Visited - **18**
- Invites to departments - **67**
- Workshops Hosted - **132**
- One -to-One consultations - **1,311**
- Emails to asktlc@ufv.ca - **3,939**



RETREAT

JUNE 2023

Visioning is always more productive when we can be together and dream of possibilities. That's exactly what the Teaching and Learning team did at Harrison Hot Springs for the June 2023 year end/year beginning planning retreat.

We co-planned all the sessions and through effective use of our time and meaningful collaboration, we came away with some great initiatives and a vision ahead for the year: We developed the HOPE³ strategy, reflected on our many successes, planned yearly events, strategized outreach to faculties and department, and dream up some amazing collaborative opportunities. All this started in a good way with Ryan Pierre who led us on a Stó:lō boat tour of the Harrison River.



INDIGENIZATION

WITH LORNA & LEANNE



Educators Journey Towards Reconciliation (EJTR)

- “I found it to be a valuable gift.”
- “Thank you for a vivid learning experience.”
- “Taking this workshop as a team has helped us learn and grow together.”

Weaving Knowledge Systems (WKS)

- “I now understand the importance that decolonizing has on Indigenization. I can see all the Indigenization possibilities now.”
- “I learned so much about two-eyed seeing and how to develop it.”

Holistic Approaches to Teaching and Learning

- “I couldn't believe how much I was already doing in my course; this workshop has helped me be more intentional.”
- “After this workshop, I encourage my students to ‘do’ a craft while listening. The result has been that it has helped their memory as they are listening in a different way now.”

HOPE³ & AI GUIDELINES



As a TLC, we recognized the need for guidelines to support educators in a variety of instructional areas. With the rapid onset of AI technologies and ChatGPT in January 2023, providing clear language to support instructors was crucial. Along with AI was the launch of the Accessibility Act which went into effect September 2023. We also focused attention on supporting high quality online instruction as more courses adopted OLO, OLM, and HYB designations. With these changes, the TLC team developed the HOPE³ strategy, a set of comprehensive, evidence-informed guidelines for use by all UFV educators. The collection of guidelines or “toolkit” was launched and shared widely in August 2023 and has since had updates in response to changes. This has become an invaluable resource to faculty areas.

The HOPE³ Toolkit includes:

- [AI Guidelines](#)
- [Accessibility Guidelines](#)
- [Online Instruction Guidelines](#)
- [Guidelines for Apps and Tools](#)

FALL FORUM ON UN/SAFETY IN TEACHING & LEARNING



In Fall 2023, the Teaching and Learning Centre invited faculty to a forum to openly discuss their experiences of un/safety and explore strategies/approaches to promote safe and engaging learning spaces at UFV – for everyone. In light of troubling events and human rights threats as documented in [UFV Now](#), the “No Space for Hate” [protests/counter protests](#), the hate crime at the [U of Waterloo](#) in June, and [geo-political tensions](#), the need to connect was paramount. Together, we discussed the risks and tensions of teaching and learning in today’s social climate, and surfaced ideas, calls to action, and ways forward. The TLC continues to remain attentive to the ‘pulse’ of teaching at UFV and challenges and opportunities that faculty encounter. Our message is clear to all educators at UFV: “We are here, we see you, and we have your back.”



CHANGEMAKING

MAY 2023

Claire Hay and Aweeet Sivia embarked on a 5-month microcredential called Leading Social Impact in Post-Secondary from Royal Roads along with 18 other UFV faculty and staff. Working towards the goal of UFV becoming an Ashoka U Changemaker Campus, the cohort investigated the current status of social innovation at UFV while exploring theoretical and practical aspects of changemaking and social innovation in a post-secondary context. Work completed as part of this credential program informed UFV on the next steps for attaining this designation. Changemaking at UFV continues to with a contract position for a Changemaking Curriculum Developer in the coming year.



DEPARTMENT COLLABORATIONS

The mandate of any Teaching and Learning Centre is to engage with the university community. We have expanded our outreach and collaborated with many units, departments, and schools across UFV. At the core of this outreach is the focus on building capacity, deepening understanding, and developing clear, tangible action plans to enhance education at UFV. We collaborate with the goal to inspire, create, and enact. Here are just some of the many collaborations we have fostered over the year.



- 1 English Department
- 2 Faculty of Education, Community, & Human Development (FECHD)
- 3 Faculty of Health Science
- 4 Faculty of Science
- 5 School of Business
- 6 School of Creative Arts (SoCA)
- 7 School of Culture, Media, & Society
- 8 School of Social Work & Human Services
- 9 Fraser Valley India

FACULTY COLLABORATIONS

Research and SoTL

All of the Learning Specialists are engaged in supporting research studies or are members of collaborative faculty research teams. A few examples of this work to embed research into teaching and learning are:

- Decolonizing Possibilities in Educational Psychology
- Changemaker Collaborative Self-Study
- Ungrading
- Social Justice and Student Voice

Open Education Resources (OER)

The Teaching and Learning Centre in collaboration with the UFV Library supports awareness, advocacy and OE resource development related to open education on campus. Claire Hay (TLC Learning Specialist), Martin Warkentin (Collections Librarian), and Janelle Sztuhar (Student Engagement Librarian) developed and manage the Open Education Micro Grants Program (OEMGP) funded by the Strategic Initiatives Fund to support 6 faculty driven projects developing open education resources.



Curriculum Mapping

A big focus of our work is supporting curriculum development. Claire Hay and Victoria Surtees have been working with departments (SOWK and GEOSCIENCE) to facilitate a mapping process to help these areas create matrices to see alignment between ILOs, PLOs, Professional Standards, and OCOs. The "maps" are effective in strengthening coherence and program vision.

Special Projects

T&L members engage with faculty and staff in a number of pilot or special projects. This work aligns with our division's goal to build connections and contribute our expertise to advance the work that is being done. Some examples include:

- Course Feedback Survey
- Building Community Across Cultures
- Collaborative Online International Learning
- Teaching Awards Working Group
- Nursing Faculty Mentoring Circles
- EJTR for Leaders

SIF

Awneet Sivia, Sundeep Hans, and Carolyn McLaren are developing a EDI for Workplaces microcredential as part of the SIF grant they received from the Provost's Office. The EDI microcourse has been informed by a community advisory group and internal stakeholders. The course would be offered through Continuing Studies in partnership with Teaching and Learning.

CELEBRATE LEARNING

Dec 2023

"Celebrate Learning at UFV" is the perfect opportunity to acknowledge and applaud the adaptability, creativity, and dedication of our UFV educators when it comes to helping students learn.



Dr. Noah Schwartz,
Assistant Professor,
Political Science

*Bringing Learning
to Life*



**Dr. Kirsten
Robertson,**
Assistant Professor,
School of Business

*The Magic of
Transforming a
Classroom into an
Organization*



Cindy Rammage,
Associate
Professor, Child,
Youth & Family
Studies

*Using the 5 R's as
self-assessment for
contributions to the
learning community
In Child and Youth
Care*



Dr. Luisa Giles,
Assistant Professor,
School of
Kinesiology

*A Midterm
Reflection*



**Christine
Zapisocki,**
Manager, Campus
Living, Student
Affairs & Kimberly
Ferguson, Housing
Operations
Manager, Housing
Operations UFV
Housing and
Campus Living
Curriculum



**Dr. Lolehawk
Laura Buker,**
Assistant Professor,
Indigenous Studies

Voices of the River



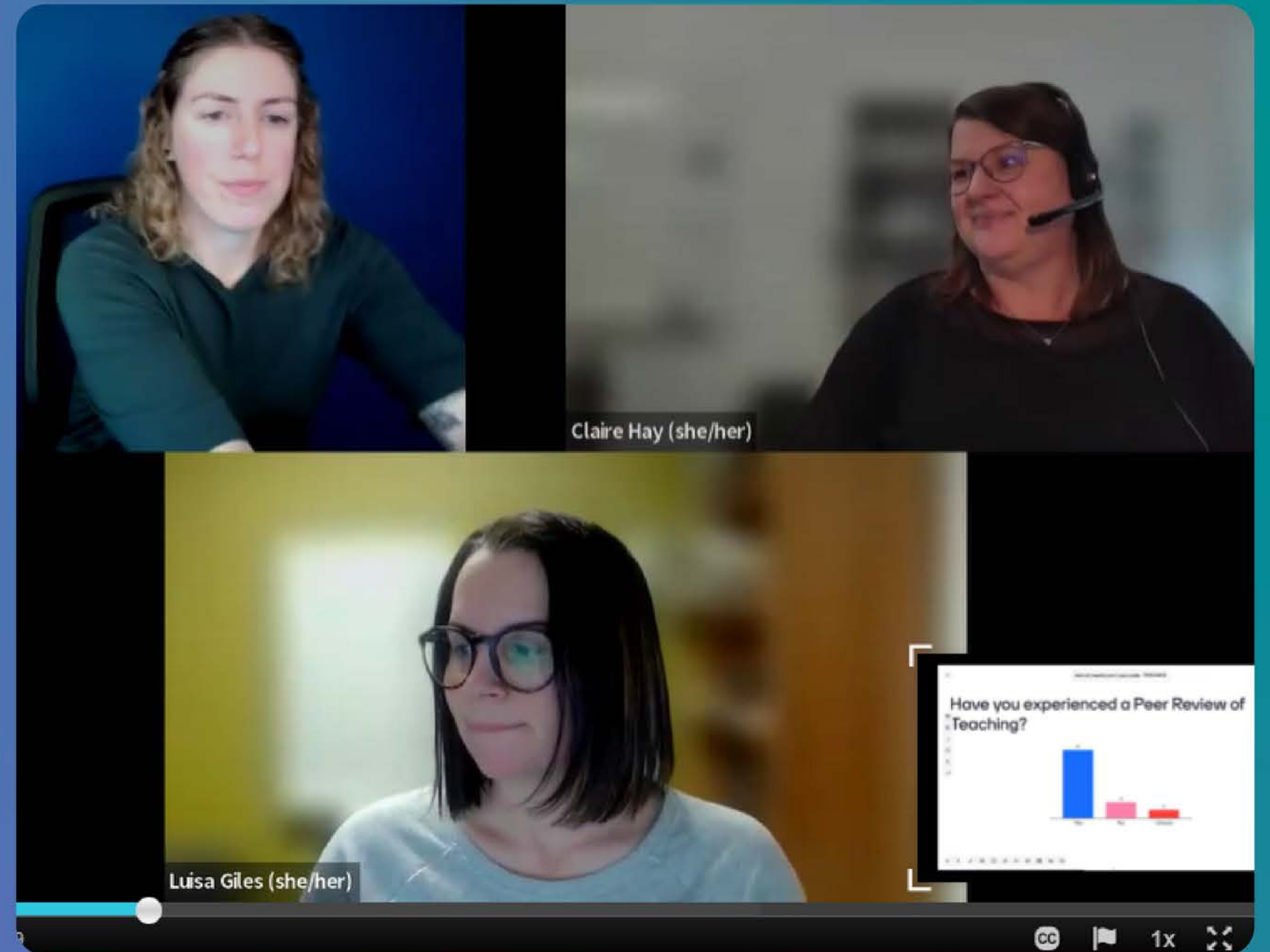
Dr. Anna Griffith,
Assistant Professor,
School of Creative
Arts

*Regenerative
Education: Nature-
embedded,
AI-infused Learning*

“ FLEX 2.0 WINTER 2024

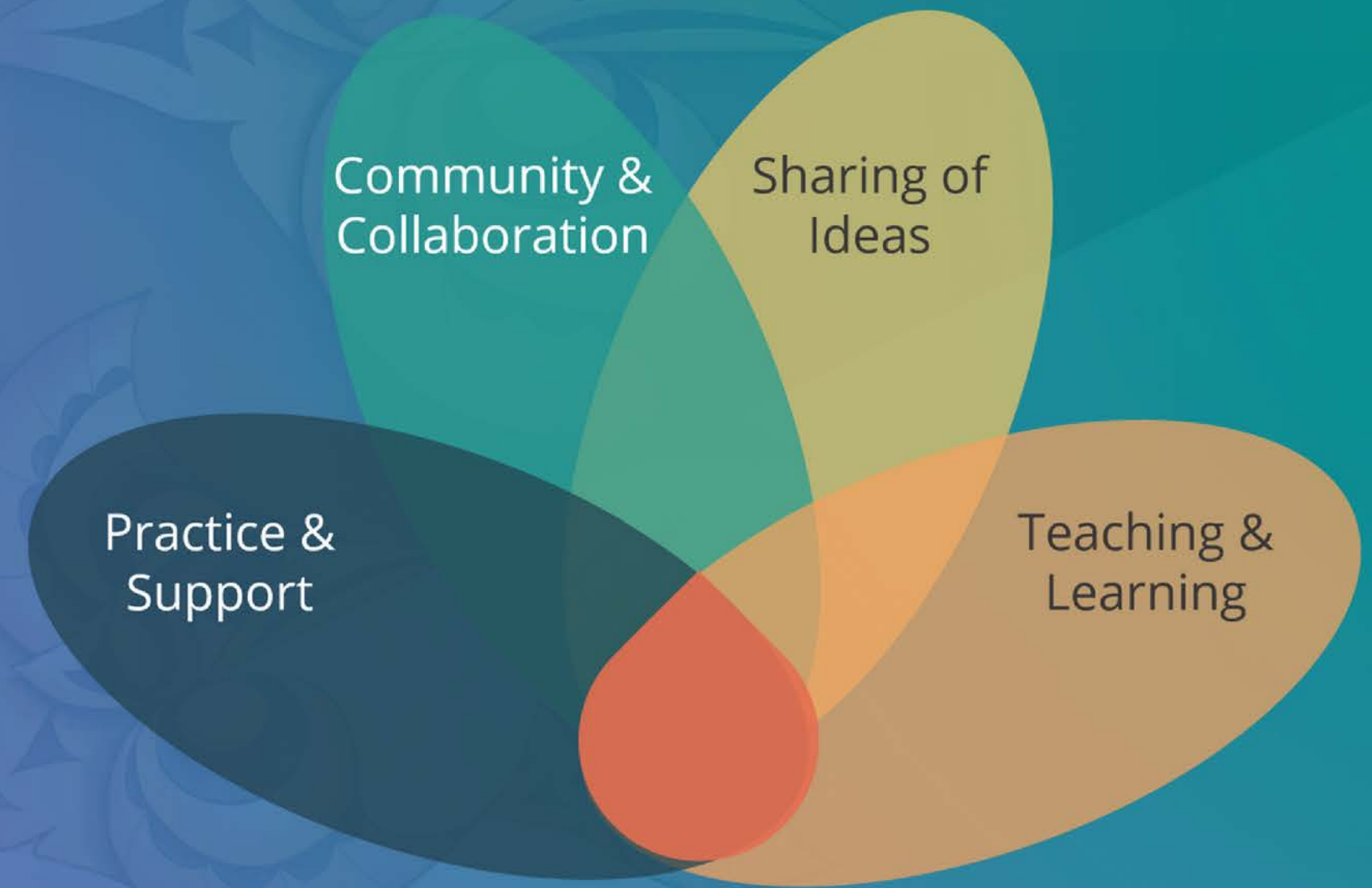
TLC Learning Specialists once again partnered with Faculty to engage in a learning exchange about instruction, curriculum, and assessment practices. This “in-situ” model where Learning Specialists join faculty in their classes has resulted in powerful insights and productive discussions about teaching and learning. Taking a non-evaluative, co-learning role, the LSs and Faculty discuss discipline specific pedagogies and promoting engagement and deeper learning in their classes. This learning exchange is an ongoing initiative in the TLC - the “FLEx” is available to all faculty in any semester.

”



COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

The TLC team continues to expand and enrich the CoP model to promote faculty development. CoPs provide opportunities to discuss emergent issues, problem-solve collaboratively, brainstorm ideas, and build connections. The Learning Specialists offer CoPs in holistic assessment, culturally responsive pedagogy, and technology integration. The research favours this approach for professional learning in higher education and suggests that CoPs foster innovation and risk-taking in teaching and learning. As the needs of faculty evolve and shift, new CoPs will emerge to support a culture of collaborative mentorship and co-learning.



Community of Practice

SLG Support Learning Groups

Supported Learning Groups are the “hidden gem” at UFV, allowing faculty to deepen student learning in their courses, and students to gain skills in peer-to-peer instruction. SLG, also supplemental instruction (SI), are student-led study skills and learning strategy sessions designed to increase student success in historically-difficult courses. The power of the SLG program is its focus on at-risk courses instead of at-risk students. The student leaders are people who have already successfully completed the course and completed a leader training program.

These data suggest that the SLG-supported learning model makes a difference in students' learning. When students learn and achieve higher course grades for their learning, particularly in first-year courses, we know that they tend to stay in higher education at a higher rate, thus affecting retention on campus. The student leaders in year one indicate that this experience was valuable to their own learning and development; several of the leaders have returned to serve in the SLG program for a second or third year.



EDUCATION SUMMIT NOV 2023

&

LEARNING EXCHANGE WEBINARS

In November 2023, Teaching and Learning partnered with the President's Office to host senior leaders from Fraser Valley School Districts and UFV for a day of learning. The aim of the Education Summit was to build connections across sectors in the spirit of supporting student transition and student success across the K-16 continuum. The Summit attendees identified five key areas to target:

- Indigenous Youth and Education
- Equity-Seeking and Underrepresented Groups
- Assessment Practices
- Cohort and Dual Credit
- Innovative Learning Pedagogies

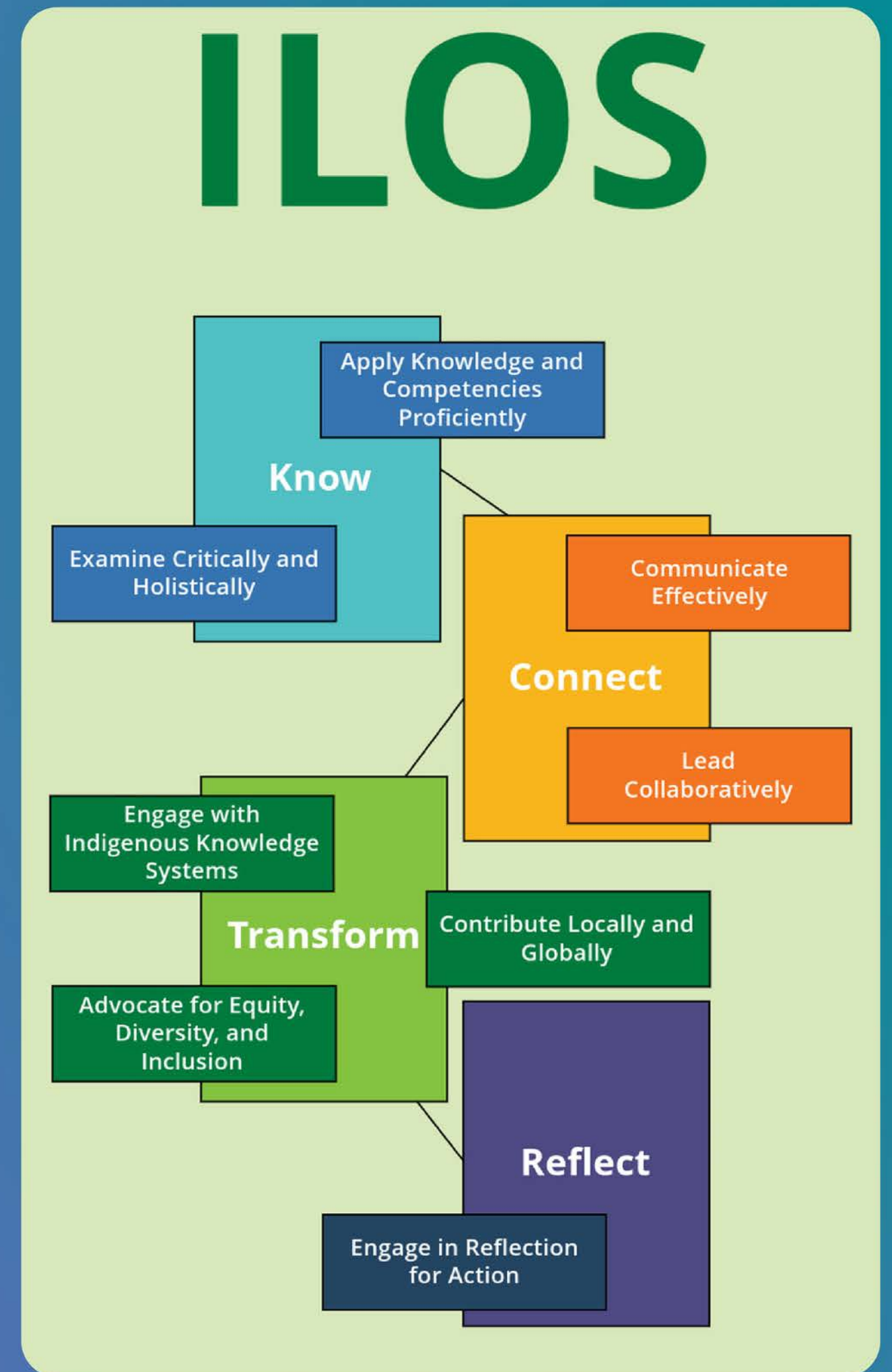
The outcome of this Summit and the rich discussions that took place was the need to have ongoing and focused conversation on the five key topics. A series of microlearning exchanges were hosted online between UFV and School District members from January to April 2024. The discussions helped to dispel myths and surface important insights about how to best support student success along the continuum of students' academic journeys. Several faculty areas and departments have developed enduring partnerships and connections with the local schools and this work will continue in the coming year with the vision to reconnect at a second Education Summit in 2024/25.



ILOs

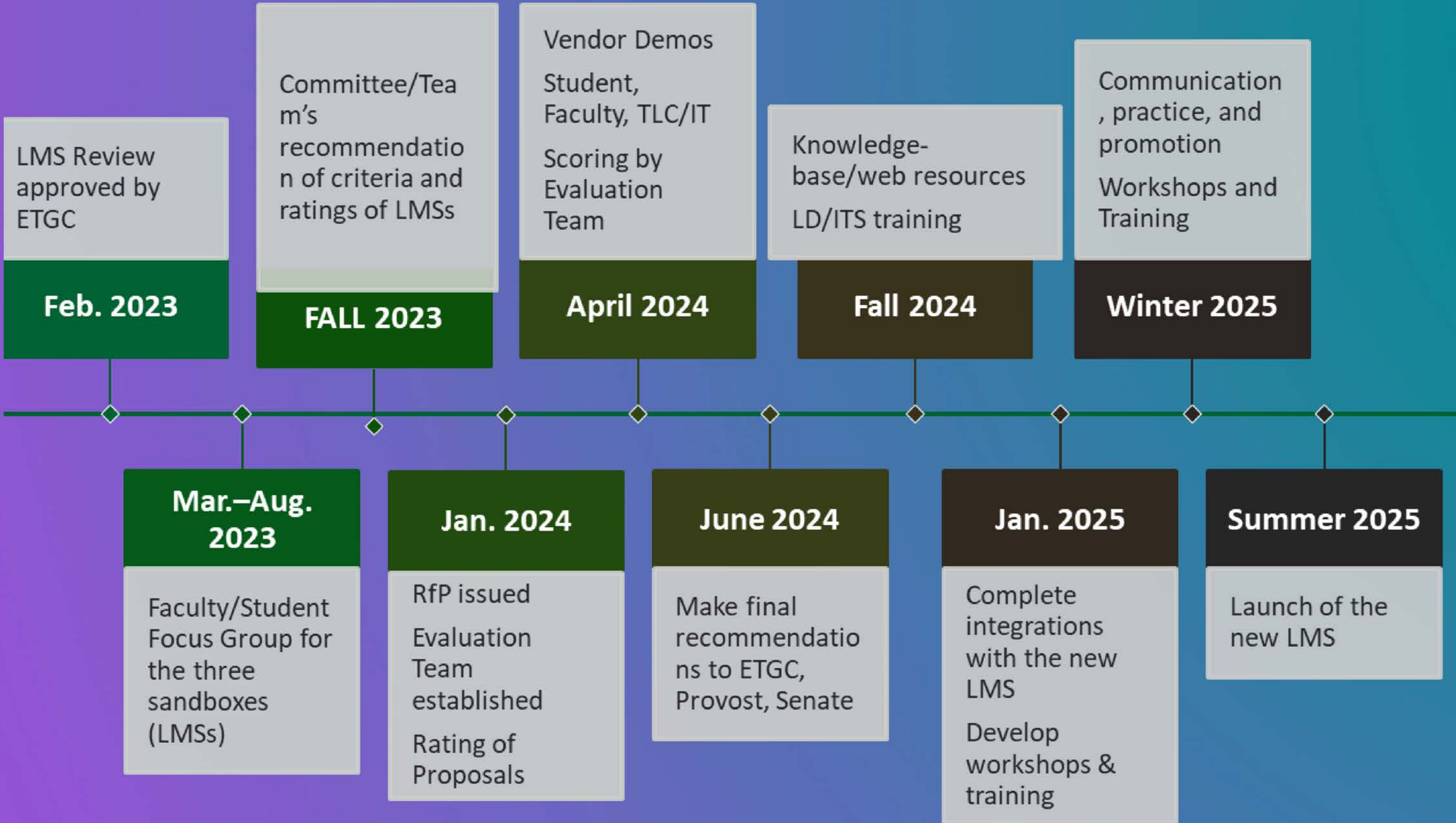
The Institutional Learning Outcomes were drafted with input from a cross-institutional committee. The updated ILOs were approved by UFV Senate in October 2023. The Teaching and Learning team will continue to update guidelines and offer workshops as the new ILOs go into effect on July 1, 2024.

The Teaching and Learning division is excited to see the potential the new ILOS offer for all learners at UFV.



LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REVIEW

The TLC and IT members are working collaboratively to select the best LMS for UFV to replace the outdated Blackboard Collaborate. The process has been inclusive and rigorous involving key stakeholders. The new LMS will be launched in September 2025.



UFV LAUNCH

UFV Launch is a 2-semester program offered by the Teaching and Learning Centre to support new tenure-track faculty at UFV. In the 2023-24 academic year, 21 new faculty from a variety of disciplines joined this program. UFV Launch, facilitated by Claire Hay and Michelle Johnson provides newly hired full-time faculty members at UFV with the foundation of educational support, resources, and a learning network as they move into their new role.



Topics covered in the Launch program include Indigenous perspectives on teaching and learning, academic integrity, culturally responsive teaching, curriculum development, assessments and grading, active learning, creating effective online learning experiences, teaching mindset, inclusive teaching, UDL and accessibility, and connecting community to the classroom.

THANK YOU