

# Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning

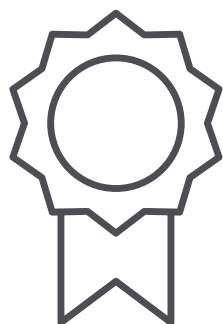


## Annual Report

May 2023 - April 2024

# GMCTL

## SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS



**170**  
LEARNING  
EVENTS

**1771**  
REGISTERED  
IN GENERAL PD

**1224**  
TAILORED SESSION  
PARTICIPANTS

**279**  
TA SUCCESS EVENT  
PARTICIPANTS

**511**  
1:1 CONSULTATIONS  
\*UP FROM 352 IN PRIOR YEAR

Colleges, schools, and departments requested GMCTL to design workshops especially for them, leading to more participants in tailored workshops this year than any of the last 6 years.

The team worked on curriculum projects and teaching processes with 17 different colleges, units, and schools.

GMCTL organized over 150 centralized learning opportunities for educators in 2023-24, with 1,771 registrations, including all USask colleges and schools.

Teaching Assistants who attend our TA Success Days events unanimously report they are more prepared to be TAs and almost always say they would recommend the sessions to others.

There was a significant rise in consultations related to academic integrity, assessment strategies, AI implementation, curriculum processes, and Indigenization.

GMCTL offered 511 consultations in 2023-24, rising from 352 in the prior year.



## Did you know...

The GMCTL adapts programs and services each year depending on what educators and leaders articulate. In 2023-24, three main areas of focus were:

- Simplifying the work of teaching and learning for faculty following fatigue from the switch to remote learning during the COVID 19 Pandemic.
- Responding to student disengagement.
- Helping educators and departments with their early response to the disruptive innovation of GenAI and it's impact on assessment in higher education.



# SUPPORTING INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) identifies strategic areas where it dedicates resources to prioritizing, growing or innovating in teaching practices. Each area identified here has specific goals and supports for departments and educators to enable ongoing development in teaching and learning. The GMCTL provided specific support in these seven areas to individual educators, departments, and colleges to advance these strategies.

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The GMCTL provides essential support and resources to actualize USask initiatives and strategies in our teaching and learning practices.

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## **Indigenization**

*The Indigenous Education Teaching Strategy supports Indigenization, Decolonization, and Reconciliation (IDR) in teaching and learning in response to the [ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan \(let's fly up together\)](#), the Indigenous Strategy for the University of Saskatchewan. The GMCTL,*

- promoted inter-cultural competencies and learning partnerships with the Indigenous community;
- provided workshops and consultation to help educators and programs respond to IDR by changing how they teach, what they teach, and how they assess.

## **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)**

*USask's focus on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) has implications for how we teach and assess, so that all students can belong, be engaged, and have equitable outcomes. The GMCTL,*

- created and introduced the [EDI Flower](#) as a model and tool to clarify what educators do in their courses to create more equitable outcomes;
- delivered workshops on intercultural communication and difficult dialogue.

## **Assessment**

*USask is in the process of evolving its Academic Courses Policy and related procedures to respond to competency-based assessments, increases in digital forms of assessment, and the need for increased security of assessments given the widespread use of generative artificial intelligence. The GMCTL,*

- widely shared the [USask Assessment Principles](#) and promoted redesigns aligned with principles;
- offered [departmentally tailored workshops](#), short courses, and consultations to help educators refine their assessments;
- coordinated various teaching and learning groups to provide support and information about Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI).



### **Experiential Learning (EL)**

*Over 90% of USask students will engage in EL while at USask, because it is critical that our graduates are prepared to be the graduates the world needs.* The GMCTL,

- created demonstration [videos](#) and embedded USask EL Framework into [workshops](#);
- offered departmentally tailored workshops for authentic assessment and community-engaged learning.

### **Flexible Learning**

*We value students being able to learn in different modes and from different places. USask is expanding the number of courses offered in a flexible manner in response to increased interest from our student body.* The GMCTL,

- launched a new Course Design Handbook and Online Course Review service, including templates, videos, and workshops to support educators in designing high-quality online courses;
- refined processes to develop a new Flexible Delivery Information Guide for departments and an additional Information Guide for Regional Colleges, resulting in a transparent and consistent system for both on- and off-campus partners.

### **Sustainability**

*Learning for Sustainability is an educational approach that equips students with the competencies needed to foster a sustainable future.* The GMCTL,

- embedded Sustainable Development Goals into classes, degrees, and programs
- coordinated a group of Sustainability Faculty Fellows.

### **USask Student Competencies**

*There are six USask Student Competencies drawn from the pursuits in the [USask Learning Charter](#), that are the backbone of what students from USask can do when they graduate. These competencies focus teaching and learning efforts to advance our university's priorities.* The GMCTL,

- designed rubrics and other assessment tools to help faculty assessing the USask Student Competencies;
- embedded how to teach to the USask Student Competencies regularly in faculty development throughout the year.





## BUILDING TEACHING SKILLS

- USask educators can complete the Certificate in University Teaching and Learning (CUTL) to build their teaching portfolio for promotion and tenure. During this reporting year, 15 people were enrolled in the CUTL Certificate program.
- The Teaching Skills Short Course (TSSC) offered over 12 hours provides an introduction to teaching to set educators up for success.
- Graduate students can enrol in GPS-986 and GPS-982 courses both supporting teaching competence and portfolio development.

## ABOUT OUR UNIT

In Summer of 2023, the Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning (GMCTL) had opportunity to merge teams with the Distance Education Unit. The 2023-2024 reporting period was a time of reflection, transition, updates, and renewal for both teams, resulting in blended teams focused to our USask Teaching Strategies and Priorities, new services, and the enhancement of teaching and learning across our institution.

The new structure of the GMCTL offers support for course and program planning, instructional design, learning analytics and data, and offers teaching and assessment support to all USask campuses.

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

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[teaching.usask.ca](http://teaching.usask.ca)