

Terms of Reference

Learning and Teaching Space Design

Background

Significant changes are taking place in the design of curriculum which, together with increasing use of a range of current and emerging technologies, has resulted in a transformation in the way we teach and learn. This Working Party will report on the range of both physical and virtual spaces needed to support these changes in student learning, the optimal mix of these spaces, and their detailed design.

This project complements two other concurrent projects. The first is a Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) project “*Supporting Curriculum Renewal*”. This committee will draw upon current research on learning, and the range of learning activities students need to engage in, to result in high quality learning outcomes. This work will underpin the development of innovative approaches to the design of curriculum at the course and subject levels.

The aim of the project described here on infrastructure support is to determine the optimal ways in which new and emerging technologies might support new developments in the design of curriculum and learning activities to enhance the student experience of learning.

A third project “*Infrastructure support for major course redesign*” builds on the two projects described above. Its role is to determine the optimal ways in which new and emerging technologies might support new developments in the design of curriculum and learning activities to enhance the student experience of learning.

A total of \$600,000 has been set aside for this project.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Stage 1 (up to \$100K)

The Working Party will:

- undertake a review of students’ use of, and views on, the utility of existing learning spaces, both formal and informal (eg facebook);
- undertake a review of contemporary approaches to design of learning spaces;
- provide advice to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Teaching, Learning and Equity) on: the optimal design and mix of learning and teaching spaces to support changes to the design of the curriculum and the range of technologies recommended by the infrastructure working party; the projected cost of their development and implementation; recommendations for pilot projects for stage 2 of the project.

The committee should take into account:

- the range of learning activities students engage in (eg. reading, listening, finding information, analyzing, discussing etc) and the affordances of spaces for undertaking these;
- flexibility of spaces to meet both current and projected future needs;
- equality of opportunity for students to make use of the spaces;
- the cost of planning, developing, implementing and maintaining the spaces.

Stage 1 of the project should be completed by 28th September, 2007.

Stage 2 (\$500K+)

The Working Party will oversee the design and development of the selected pilot projects, with particular regard to evaluation of the effectiveness of these spaces and recommendations for further development.

Working Party Members

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