The Task Force on Teaching and Learning (TFTL) has considered the thoughtful feedback provided by the community in response to its discussion paper dated July 20, 2009. Revisions were subsequently made to the recommendations and a new summary document (attached) was submitted to me by the Chair of the Task Force earlier this week. I have reviewed the summary recommendations and approved the action plan described in the Priorities and Timeline section. Implementation planning has begun on two identified priorities, viz.,

1. Launching initiatives that are aimed at promoting a culture in which teaching and learning are salient, accorded appropriate value, and consistent with University policies and priorities, and
2. Developing a new teaching and learning support system which includes:
   a) Establishing formal processes and mechanisms to organize communication, collaboration, and decision-making among teaching support service units;
   b) Conducting a search within each Faculty for a University Teaching Fellow who will serve as the Faculty's representative on the University Council on Teaching and Learning in an interim capacity to expedite the Council's work; and
   c) Convening the University Council on Teaching and Learning and tasking it, as a first priority, with overseeing the creation of the new Teaching and Learning Support Unit, which will be the next evolution of the LIDC.

These actions are necessary to advance the academic plan, enhance support for SFU instructors, and provide a means for all stakeholders to collaborate on addressing the many issues related to teaching and learning at SFU. If the implementation requires new policies or changes to existing ones, these will be brought forward for consideration in the usual manner.

The TFTL is in the process of completing its final report over the next few weeks. The report will provide a comprehensive rationale for its recommendations and be accompanied by an FAQ that will address some of the common concerns and questions raised to date.

Jonathan C. Driver, PhD, RPA
Vice-President, Academic and Provost
Professor of Archaeology
Simon Fraser University, 8888 University Drive Burnaby, British Columbia, V5A 1S6, Canada
driver@sfu.ca
Telephone: 778 782 3925
Fax: 778 782 5876
www.sfu.ca