Notice from the Chair of the Teaching Stream Committee: correction

In early 2013, UTFA’s Teaching Stream committee collaborated with the Librarians committee on a survey to gather more information on some long-standing issues. For the Teaching Stream, a key concern has been ensuring that research and scholarship is given appropriate weight in PTR decisions. The survey provided some very useful information. Unfortunately, some of the data was misreported in the 2013 AGM Newsletter, and we correct the record in what follows.

Roughly 33 per cent of teaching stream faculty participated in the survey, with strong representation from all three campuses, and from the humanities, social sciences, sciences and the professional schools.

Among the results:

- On the issue of teaching in all three terms, close to a quarter (22 per cent) of respondents reported feeling pressured to teach in all three.
- Half of respondents (51 per cent) report administrative duties that go beyond normal service work.
- 72 per cent report they normally have insufficient time for research or scholarship between September and April, while 76 per cent report that they mainly do their research or scholarship work during the summer term.
- 75 per cent of respondents report they have never been encouraged to seek external research funding, and 11 per cent report being “actively discouraged” from doing so.
- Fewer than half of respondents reported that their research or scholarship was taken into account in PTR and promotion reviews, while many others were unsure.

W. Brock MacDonald
Chair, UTFA Teaching Stream Committee

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