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CITL Undergraduate Student Advisory Group

Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

The 2017 – 2018 school year marked the fourth iteration of the CITL Undergraduate Student Advisory Group. Composed of student representatives from BUS, LAS, MEDIA, EDU, and ACES, the 10-member group met five times throughout the year to discuss a range of teaching and learning issues. Topics included: technology innovation on campus; flexible classrooms; the cost of textbooks; access to student resources on campus; teaching assistants; and pros and cons of group work.

What we learned

Student advisory members demonstrated a strong interest in improving instructional practices on campus. They expressed a desire to learn from instructors who are not only passionate and knowledgeable about their disciplines, but also empathetic and approachable. Students want more intentional, active learning opportunities designed to keep them engaged with the course material. Additionally, they are more interested in learning opportunities that foster team-based interaction than traditional activities of individually assigned homework and projects. To that end, students expressed an interest in more robust leadership opportunities in their learning, as well as more transparency in how learning resources are created and distributed among the different colleges on campus. Providing students with access and opportunity to innovative technology tools was also a theme highlighted throughout our meetings.

Plans for next year

One goal for next year includes adding additional students from colleges not currently represented in the group, as well as increasing the number of meetings. Second, we plan on inviting students to collaborate with CITL staff on specific projects throughout the year. Students expressed a strong interest in working on tangible projects with CITL staff in order to contribute directly to CITL's mission of enhancing teaching and learning on campus. Some ideas for collaboration include designing a student-focused open house for the Armory Innovation Spaces, as well as inviting student collaboration through our teaching and learning workshop series.