Dear Colleagues,

We’ve made substantive progress in the past year in our efforts to support teaching and learning – a major goal of the Two Years to Two Decades (2y2d) initiative – with particular success on serving our diverse and digitally-savvy UW community. Recent pilots of transformative, integrated technologies show they can support cutting-edge pedagogy, save faculty time, and provide academic continuity.

I am writing to alert you to three teaching and learning opportunities for you and your faculty. Please share our invitation to participate with your faculty colleagues – and let them know that there’s support for them to take advantage of each of these opportunities.

The three opportunities are:
1. Canvas learning management system,
2. Tegrity lecture capture/presentation recording,
3. “Flipping the classroom.”

I believe that widespread adoption of these new tools, as well as related pedagogical experimentation, can help UW faculty and students advance teaching and learning in the coming years.

1. **The Canvas learning management system saves time and supports innovation.**
The recent Canvas pilot showed that 79% of pilot users would recommend Canvas to other instructors and colleagues, and preferred it to Blackboard and Moodle:
   - Canvas makes teaching more efficient, especially assignment submission and grading.
   - Canvas makes it easier for faculty to experiment and innovate. Pilot participants, for example, held online office hours and recorded audio feedback on assignments.

Based on pilot results, the Board of Deans and Chancellors, and the Teaching & Learning Technology Oversight Committee have endorsed the rollout of Canvas to all three campuses.

*Try Canvas in your school, college or department…*
If your unit would like to be an early adopter, please email tech2y2d@uw.edu.

UW-IT provides implementation support, general and custom workshops, and online training modules. The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) offers guidance on using Canvas to support course learning goals and increase student learning.

While there is no deadline for individual faculty to migrate to Canvas, it is my hope and expectation that all campuses will move to the Canvas learning management system over the next two years.

2. **Tegrity lecture capture enables self-paced learning and innovative pedagogies.**
For the last year, instructors on all three campuses used Tegrity to easily record lectures or presentations from any computer. This allows students to reference material online and, in some cases, frees up class time for discussion, questions, or group work. UW-IT assessed faculty and student experience with Tegrity and found:
   - Tegrity is easy to use. Little to no training is required.
• 77% of students feel that using Tegrity contributed to their learning, particularly by providing an opportunity to review lectures or portions of lectures outside of class.
• Tegrity helps instructors maintain academic continuity during campus closures and instructor/student absences.

**Try Tegrity in your school, college or department…**
Tegrity is free and available now to faculty for their courses. It will soon be available to the rest of the UW community for use in other contexts.

If there are faculty, technologists, or teaching support staff in your unit who should learn more about Tegrity, please let us know by emailing tech2y2d@uw.edu.

It is my hope that Tegrity will become the standard option for lecture and presentation recording at UW over the next couple years.

For more information about lecture capture see: http://www.washington.edu/discover/leadership/provost/initiatives/2y2d/teaching-learning/about#T&LResourceVideos

**3. Join faculty who are experimenting with “flipping the classroom.”**
Tools like Tegrity make it possible to have students watch lectures outside of class, freeing up precious class time for case studies, problem-solving, and collaborative work. Often called “flipping the classroom,” the goals are not new: to use face-to-face time to engage students and nurture critical thinking. When moving lectures to video, the challenges come in re-thinking class time, balancing student workload, and designing effective learning tasks for our students.

To support faculty who wish to experiment with “flipping the classroom,” an autumn quarter Faculty and Professional Learning Community will focus on exploring the potential pedagogies, followed with a winter pilot to examine learning outcomes. As part of the Teaching and Learning in the 21st Century Initiative, the CTL is seeking instructors interested in flipping a portion of their autumn 2012 or winter 2013 course.

To participate in the “flipping the classroom” learning community visit: http://www.washington.edu/teaching/programs/faculty-and-professional-learning-communities-fplcs

Each of these opportunities has tremendous potential to enhance the innovative work already being done at UW. Please share this message with your colleagues, so that they can participate.

Sincerely,

Ana Mari Cauce
Provost and Executive Vice President