

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to take part in shaping the future of teaching and learning programs offered at the Teaching Commons at York University. The Teaching Commons is committed to teaching and learning support and want to know how to best connect with you, especially given your unique position of being a teaching-focused contract faculty member.

It is evident across Ontario that contract faculty members in higher education are often under-served at the University and under-represented in the literature, which makes it all the more challenging to adequately support your teaching professional development needs. This is where your direct input is needed to help us succeed in shaping your teaching and learning supports, and by also contributing to the greater body of literature to encourage and inspire others across the sector.

In order to address this need, a Postdoctoral Visitor with the Teaching Commons, Dr. Brian Nairn, is inviting you to complete an online survey and/or join a focus group for further discussion on the matter of teaching and learning support. This will provide you with the opportunity to voice your opinion on what can and should be done, as well as helping us ensure we are taking appropriate action to better serve your needs. Your voice is central to this decision making process. The survey itself will take approximately 10-20 minutes to complete, and the research protocol has been approved by the Office of Research Ethics (e2019-332). The survey will remain open until December 13, 2019.

If you have any questions/comments/concerns about this study, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Nairn directly at nairn1@yorku.ca.

To access the online survey, please click the following link: <https://yorku-tc.limequery.com/836679?lang=en>

A link to sign-up for a focus group can be found at the end of the survey. If you would like to only participate in a focus group and not complete the online survey, please click the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/TCFocusGroup>

Thank you in advance for your contributions to this study and for voicing your opinion on this important topic.

Sincerely,

The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive style and appears to read "Brian C. Nairn". There are two distinct parts to the signature, one on the left and one on the right, separated by a small gap.

Brian C Nairn, PhD