# U of S SoTL Cluster Charter
## Technology-Enhanced Learning: An Assessment of Student Response Systems in the University Classroom

**Description:**
With the recent adoption of the Top Hat student response system, the University of Saskatchewan has signaled its continuing commitment to technology-enhanced learning. This research cluster will focus on the implementation and effectiveness of student response systems in the university classroom, with a specific focus on the Top Hat platform. In particular, this research team is interested in gathering quantitative data on Top Hat's pedagogical effectiveness and investigating best teaching practices for this program. Additionally, the interdisciplinary nature of our cluster will allow us to explore the advantages and limitations of Top Hat in a variety of classes and subject areas.

**Members of the Cluster:**
Carleigh Brady, PhD, Instructor, Department of English
Soo Kim, PhD, BS.PT, Assistant Professor, School of Physical Therapy
Landon Baillie, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology
Raymond Spiteri, PhD, Professor, Department of Computer Science
Neil Chilton, PhD, Professor, Department of Biology

**Goals and predicted timeline:**
Over the next two years, this research cluster will:
- Gather data from classes (Year 1 and Year 2: starting May 2017)
- Conduct a literature review (Year 1: May-August 2017)
- Write and submit one peer-reviewed paper as a group; individual projects may also be written and submitted. (Year 2)
- Share findings through conferences, workshops, and/or other professional development opportunities, both within and outside the university. (Year 2)

**Envisioned process:**
- Cluster members will meet monthly as a group; collaborating members may meet more often or as required.
- Monthly meetings will focus on sharing research progress, exploring new project ideas, reviewing relevant literature, and discussing budget allocations and other administrative matters.

**Financial:**

The cluster wishes to support both collaborative studies between cluster members and individual research projects that are directly connected to the cluster goals. Funding decisions will be decided collectively as a group, as the need arises. In principle, we agree to equitably support such needs as:

- Publication charges
- Travel expenses and partial conference funding
- Group resources (books, programs, etc.)
- Payment for research costs (e.g., literature search, survey design, data analysis, programming)
- Incidental costs (e.g., photocopying, booking meeting spaces)

**Scope:**

In Scope:

- Collaborative and individual projects directly related to the cluster's stated goals

Not In Scope:

- Individual research beyond stated cluster goals
- Funding individuals outside of the cluster group

**Constraints, Assumptions, Risks and Dependencies of Note**

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| **Constraints** | <ul><li>Time: all members involved have additional teaching and research responsibilities</li><li>Coordination of members across different disciplines may pose an additional challenge</li></ul> |
| **Assumptions** | <ul><li>All members will work collaboratively to meet cluster goals</li><li>Approvals will be obtained from the Research Ethics Board as required</li></ul> |
| **Risks and Dependencies** | <ul><li>Collecting and using student data</li></ul> |