
MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

— MINUTES —

Thursday, October 25, 2012

Approved

PRESENT: Richard Albistegui-DuBois, Michael Arguello, Jay Baker, Rebecca Barr, Michael Bartulis, Kelly Falcone, Sherry Goldsmith, Erin Hiro, Nirmala Kashyap, Lawrence Lawson, Kalyna Lesyna, Lillian Payn, Teresa Pelkie, Chris Sinnott

GUESTS: Dean Judy Cater; Faculty Senator Patrick O'Brien; ATRC staff: Terry Gray, Chris Norcross, Shay Phillips, Elaine Armstrong; Blackboard presenters Matt Lord and Liam Ferris

ABSENT: Jackie Martin-Klement, Jonathan Smith

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Chair Lillian Payn at 2:00 p.m. in Room LL 104.

MINUTES: The minutes were approved.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Community Panel: Blackboard Account Execs Matt Lord and Liam Ferris presented slides and answered questions about the Community panel for Blackboard. Attendees saw the value of integrating many different functions on one panel with an interface that more than half the faculty and students are already using. The committee will make a recommendation to the Senate at the next meeting.

Discussion: ATC members liked the following features: Calendar, integration of so many components campus-wide communication and collaboration for faculty, students, clubs, posting "once-to-many classes," group spaces, merging and replacing Sandbox, etc. are some of the major advantages. Concerns were expressed for resources staffing for maintenance and moderation if a group chose to adopt a Community solution, inclusion and exclusion of group members, and cost.

Dean Judy Cater recommended that including a recommendation with the PRPs already submitted to IPC would be advantageous. These were to be decided upon by the end of the year. We would need to send in our recommendation to the Senate immediately after our next meeting. Terry Gray noted that VP Cuaron suggested that a recommendation by the Senate could be stronger than only from ATRC, since IPC turned down the request for Community the last two years.

2. Technology Fee: ATC members want to continue to discuss the fee, and we shall formulate a recommendation to the Senate at the next meeting.

Dean Judy Cater cautioned that raising fees at this time is an unpopular decision, and the Deans and VP's are taking a conservative view about expenses.

INFORMATION: The Work Groups added new members and presented their status reports.

1. Work Group Report: BB Student Training
Rebecca Barr
Michael Bartulis
Sherry Goldsmith
Lawrence Lawson
Teresa Pelkie

The Group is identifying the videos that they want to recommend, as well as determining if any need to be made in-house. They are working individually on their tasks.

2. Work Group Report: Contest

Richard Albistegui-DuBois
Kelly Falcone
Erin Hiro
Jackie Martin-Klement

The Group will use an existing WordPress page to advertise and promote the contest.

3. Work Group Report: Policy: Proxy, Security, etc.

Michael Arguello
Jay Baker
Nirmala Kashyap
Kalyna Lesyna
Jon Smith

The Work Group is waiting for statistics from Palomar's test proctoring center. Dean Judy Cater had facilitated communication with Ruth Barnaba, who is looking for the stats we are requesting.

4. The Library Work Group for ATRC facilities has met once with the Architectural team. Lillian Payn invited ATC members to participate in the work group. Jay Baker and Chris Sinnott volunteered.
5. David Gray recently completed a Data Base course that will give him the skills to work more efficiently with Blackboard, since Blackboard does not provide documentation or instructions for DB connectivity. At our debriefing he expressed the significance of what he learned and identified what they need to do differently in the future to improve the speed and sturdiness of BB. David is also now teaching the ATRC team what he learned. (Thanks to Dean Judy Cater for approving the workshop training.)
6. The Wiki tool in Blackboard keeps crashing. It can be repaired, but then fails randomly. Since very few instructors appear to be using it, it is now disabled. So far, instructors have not noticed, so it does not seem to be an issue. To repair it, Blackboard would have to be down for a major upgrade for up to four days. This is excessive at the moment, if no one is benefitting from this particular upgrade.
7. Users of the Blackboard Collaborate tool for synchronous training may experience issues with the Application Sharing menu icon if they are in Java 7 on a Mac. The screens freeze. CCC Confer didn't experience this, according to a communication with them, but it is reported on the Blackboard trouble boards. There is no fix for it at this time. Recommendation: Use a PC if you need to do Application Sharing (i.e., take students through software demos).
8. At the Oct. 19 Distance Educators Monthly meeting, the following items were discussed:
- a. Both a DE Student and Faculty Satisfaction Survey and Student Library and Technology Engagement Survey are being pilot-tested.
 - b. An RFP for funds for an Instructional Improvement loan has been released (information has been sent along to VP Cuaron), which allows a college to buy equipment now, if they know they will receive funds over the next 3 years, since there is a 3-year no interest payback term on the loan.
9. Jackie and Jon sent their regrets for missing the meeting.

MEETINGS: SCHEDULE (LL 104), 2:00 – 3:30 pm / 2nd, 4th Thursdays

11/8/12

2013

1/24

2/14, 2/28

3/14

4/11, 4/25

5/9

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm.