

Academic Technology Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 5th2020

Minutes Prepared by Dr. Richard Fuller

Attending: Lawrence Tomei, Professor of Education, SNEHS, Jianyu Ma, Associate Professor of Finance, SBUS, Arif Sirinterlikci, Associate Dean, Research and Outreach, SEMS, Emily Paladino, Systems Librarian, Library, Natalya Bromall, Associate Professor of Computer and Information Systems, SIHSS, Phillip Miller, Chief Information Officer, Information Technology, Richard Fuller, Interim Director, IML Ph.D., CIT Director, Professor of Education, SNEHS, Chairman

Call to Order: Rick called the meeting to order at 10AM in the CIT Office Conference Room and welcomed everyone to the first Academic Technology Council Meeting. Discussion was held as to the role and function of the council as it has been reinstated as a university wide committee/council. Rick Explained the Council has been recognized to focus on the pedagogical and classroom technology needs of the university's faculty and students and to assist in prioritizing capital expenditures.

Personal Use of Technology Policy – Rick stated that at the January Convocation, the Provost, Dr. Mary Ann Rafoth stated that the university was in the process of developing a Personal Use of Technology Policy on student use of technology in the classroom and that the ATC had been requested to undertake the task. Rick presented a draft policy that addressed both the use in the classroom and the use during course assessments and exams. Arif Sirinterlikci brought up the Academic Integrity issues that currently exist with the student population and how they are using technology to usurp honest assessments. A lengthy discussion followed. Larry Tomei explained that this has been a longtime issue and it is almost impossible to stay ahead of what students are doing. Rick explained that the CIT has been addressing some of the overall issues with faculty professional development seminars for faculty on the current state of Academic Integrity and what students are doing and how. It was discussed that this was beyond the scope of this policy and that we could address the larger technology issue at a future meeting. The group felt that the policy needs to be all encompassing but left to the discretion of the instructor to make the decision as when it should be and should not be permitted. The Council also felt that the title needed to be more direct and indicative that this is a student policy in the classroom. The group agreed that the title Student Use of Technology in the Classroom Policy provided that clarity. Rick requested that all members send him some different ideas and wording as they see are needed. He explained that this policy would undergo several reviews throughout the policy development process before final approval and implementation.

LMS Focus Group – the ATC has been charged with conducting a focus group of faculty who are currently using Blackboard effectively in both online and on ground courses. The purpose of this focus group is to gain an understanding on how faculty are using an LMS through online and on ground courses as pedagogy to understand what elements in the LMS BB are working well and what do we like and what things would we like to see changed in BB. The focus group is scheduled for noon on February 5th after this meeting. Seven faculty have agreed to participate in the focus group that will culminate in a list of common threads and themes descriptive of what is working and what faculty would typically like to see more in their LMS.

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Phill Miller stated that he had brought items bring what we need next year to the table now so as to prioritize. Phill brought with him a list of all academic technology software with the purpose of this group to review and decide if this is the best and what is currently needed by all disciplines and departments across campus. It will be the function of this group to review as a team and to go back to their individual schools to gather information to decide if the current software utilization is providing the is this what we need and is this the best value for what we are spending or do we need different software for next year. Phill requested to have this finalized through the ATC by April of this to allow sufficient time to purchase and install appropriately for the coming academic year.

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Additional Items

- ***Future Meeting Schedule – Frequency and Dates***

Adjournment

