

Information Technology Committee
January 20, 2016 at 10 a.m. via Blackboard Collaborate

Julie Cascio convened the meeting of the Information Technology Committee on January 20, 2016 at 10 a.m. via Blackboard Collaborate

Roll Call

Attendees: Bill Barnes, Julie Cascio, Eric Collins, Joanne Healy, Falk Huettmann, Rorik Peterson, Ruth Prato, Siri Tuttle, Chris Lott ex officio, Debra Kouda ex officio, Martha Mason ex officio, Fred Schlutt ex officio, Nathan Zierfuss-Hubbard, Karl Kowalski

Blackboard Collaborate - Joanne shared information on set up, connecting to the meeting, and use of this platform for use during a meeting.

Security concerns with internet use –CITO, Karl Kowalski and CISO, Nathan Zierfuss-Hubbard shared information on security concerns.

Karl said that Nathan looks at privacy concerns, data concerns and the ability to retrieve lost information. Some UAF personnel purchase other internet services. It is important to work with procurement department so OIT knows if some other service is being used, and can look at the security for it. Nathan mentioned he works with cloud-computing guidelines for security, working with outsource vendors and intellectual properties for security.

Statistics on security can be shared with faculty at security@alaska.edu.

In the past indication of a potential scam through an email was indicated by poor grammar or spelling. However, targeted attacks have gotten more sophisticated and may be difficult to tell. Be vigilant on sharing information and any kind of requests or links in an email.

FERPA protections are followed in Google email. UA negotiated tighter restrictions when that format was chosen for email.

Elearning updates - Chris Lott reported that Elearning combined their faculty development training, Joy Morrison's offers and OIT trainings in one schedule.

OIT videoconferencing evaluation process –Debra Kouda reported that she is in the middle stages to evaluate actual video conferencing products. Stakeholders, including elearning, psychology, etc who are large users have been identified to be included in this project. It has been identified that two uses need to be investigated. One is the lecture capture option, similar to Echo 360.

Eliminate Live support. It was identified previously that issues arising with the use of this program occur and it would be helpful to have an OIT tech to trouble shoot in evenings when it usually occurs. Debra Kouda repeated that OIT staff will only be available via the telephone in evenings. Committee member said this does not help with the issues.

OIT and faculty engagement. Debra Kouda reported faculty engagement is starting at the beginning of this semester.

CANVAS was suggested by committee as a learning management system to explore.

This is a learning management system that is faster, cheaper, able to be used on mobile apps. Chris explained that it was piloted and evaluated at the behest of Faculty Senate a few years ago. It isn't parallel with Collaborate but a LMS/CMS ala Blackboard. Fred said many large universities are migrating from Blackboard to Canvas. Falk reported that CANVAS is quite diverse and adjustable, many pros; few cons in his estimate. The Math Department uses it and they have great success with it. He uses it to save time as it is easier to use.

Phone company roles – Falk requested information from ATT and GCI but has not received information from them. He thought it may not be the correct contact so he will contact municipalities about broadband connections. Karl volunteered to help facilitate answers to these questions. He recently explored fiber optic in the Arctic and research in communities needing more bandwidth.

Explorance Blue- Additional feedback from committee members

Ruth shared she got more response when she set aside time in the classroom for students to do evaluations.

Chris shared that aggregate data has gone to the provost and will be out soon. Preliminary aggregate rough draft showed the response to Explorance Blue was about 42%, compared to 60% from previous written evaluations. This is better than anticipated. A marketing campaign will happen this semester to illustrate how it helped teachers change their practice as instructors which may encourage students to fill out the evaluations.

Falk mentioned that data looks different than it did in the paper format.

Chris also said that the instructor is not able to have the evaluation open at different times. Students have a 10 day window to respond.

A humorous video was shared: A Conference Call in Real Life - YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYu_bGbZiiQ

Next Meeting - February 17, 2016 at 10 a.m. via Adobe Connect. Chris Lott
March 23, 2016, 10 am CANVAS Falk will investigate using this platform

The meeting adjourned at 11:04 am