

Faculty Senate Information Technology Committee Meeting

Oct. 30, 2018

10:00 -11:00 am

Place: conference room in 145 Bunnell

Committee members:

Josh Lupinek, school of management
Richard McDonald, computer networks
Falk Huettmann,
Andres Lopez, fisheries, museum
Casey Matney, Cooperative Extension and SNRE
Sandra Wildfeuer, mathematics education
Orion Lawlor, computer science
Mingchu Zhang, chair SNRe

Ex-officios:

Owen Guthrie (e-Learning),
Joshua Watts (OIT)

1. Agenda approved.
2. Minutes approved from last time.
3. Welcome Owen and Joshua to serve in the committee as ex-officios.
 - a. What is new in OIT, Joshua
 - i. Banner 9 has been taking up a lot of time, soft launch was yesterday, then it was down for long periods of time yesterday, then more stable, work out bugs on the soft launch, load based issues, recently everyone working on Banner 9
 - ii. How does it work now that OIT has lost a lot of smart people?
 1. Budget cuts
 2. OIT is small - service response times are slower, it takes longer for service, every team on campus has suffered from budget cuts, they were down for awhile at service desk to two full time employees to serve all statewide and uaf, now three, maybe a fourth in the future, the way that OIT processes, if you don't end up on the phone you are given choice to email, voicemail, not reviewed yet, they don't know what request it, voicemails take a long time, emails take a while, last week inbox down to zero, every thing moving through, backlog was at about 70, automated process, they are getting caught up, they have their heads above water

3. Have you thought about a CHAP presence?
 - a. It exists not advertised, and more costly to run
 4. Walking in or phone call will get quickest response
 - iii. Larry Hinzman has a plan to double faculty, if they have a disconnect now, could potentially be trouble in future, we need to build the infrastructure to support that, OIT needs to be on the agenda, email forwarded to chair and Josh L
 - iv. OIT needs to state that there is not enough support for OIT
 - v. What software is managed by OIT
 1. blackboard - OIT handles
 2. Who is responsible for Blue Explorance and Faculty 180?
 - a. It is cloud based, so OIT does not manage
 - vi. Future endeavors include HR and setting up a UA gateway, Saichi talking about plans that, will involve OIT in the future.
- b. What is new in e-learning , Owen
- i. It is not elearning anymore, now they are called ecampus
 1. rebranded- better captures full set of services they offer, recruitment, advising, registrar, exam center, course support, they are a campus
 2. what is ecampus- what is the new concept- elearning is modality, old name a mouthful, seen as a tech support unit, before course building, shifting to a new brand, better encompasses that it is a unit to itself, the services are encompassed from recruitment to graduation,
 3. they don't own academic content, support our courses and development of programs
 4. across nation there are ecampuses
 - ii. Leadership transitions
 1. executive director, and two associate directors, exec and one assoc leaving
 2. Owen is acting director
 - iii. Strategic enrollment planning, online subcommittee - potential growth for online development (25 page planning document due next week)
 - iv. Seven year accreditation is going on right now
 - v. Samples of ecampus doing good work
 1. developing courses
 2. new media studio opening on west ridge- a room in 303 irving, a full service media studio, make it easier for those on west ridge, an old computer lab is now a new media room
 3. they are installing a green screen, and equipment wrap
 4. they have a studio, on campus, updated to a 4K studio, good equipment, hoping to be more engaged getting faculty involved
 5. get more of UAF science technology engineering and math presence out there, math has been there
 6. ongoing faculty development opportunities

- a. 4-5 cohort based, open dropin , i teach online, ecampus
 - vi. Feedback on Quality Matters
 - 1. some say that it has made their courses worse, rather than better
 - 2. a national nonprofit organization, 10,000 faculty members, set of quality standards for online courses
 - 3. addresses design, not delivery, technology or platform, alignment of objectives to activities and assessments
 - 4. there are guidelines, a rubric
 - 5. most courses benefit from time spent thinking how they are structured
 - 6. some people would rather focus on other ends of their work
 - 7. issue if you do class development, and compare with syllabus at uaf, doesn't make it better
 - 8. in a way this is a faculty senate discussion
 - 9. hidden argument at uaf - we are academics we are phd that is why we are good, if you take it out of our hands to make us all equal, quality matters is leveling rather than- underneath a big issue
 - 10. school of management perspective, they want quality matters programs
 - 11. an exercise in pedagogy, at the end of the day, the course is improved, the faculty has freedom to teach the way they want
 - vii. President Johnsen has asked a question, about redundant online learning programs across the ua system, some point the music will stop, the ones that have programs will develop them
 - 1. this came from the chancellor, since new uaa chancellor is aggressive in online building, we want to position ourselves as strongly as possible, we need a place where students go to get their programs
 - 2. ecampus is larger than uaa, they hired three designers last few years, integrated into departments
 - 3. Would there be a statewide ecampus eventually?
 - 4. at UAF we don't think about UAA when we design our classes
 - 5. Are we designing our classes so that you can take it from anywhere in the world?
 - 6. UAA issues perhaps will be crediting, UAA not to our standards in fairbanks, how to deal with situation, UAA throws out a lot online and it is not quality
 - viii. e campus is general funded
 - ix. e campus is asynchronous
- c. Discussion on the issues
- i. Support for synchronous classes?
 - 1. Blackboard Collaborate, Settings in smart classrooms
 - 2. perhaps this is departmental (SOM offers support)
 - 3. Falk- the reality is that faculty don't have any support for synchronous learning

4. perhaps this is not e-campus, but it is an OIT issue
 5. Is this a political issue vs other type of issue?
 - ii. Support for smart classrooms?
 1. smart classrooms settings, they are different in each classroom
 2. OIT- if a department has money and wants to do something, the department decides how to spend the money, OIT recommends different tiers of how the room should be set up
 3. Should the university have classrooms with minimum standards?
 - a. at the end of the day, instructors trying to be innovative, shouldn't encounter blocks
 4. Is there a group on campus that deals with smart rooms?
 - iii. How are rooms scheduled?
 1. it is a few people
 - a. video conferencing has to juggle to find out what rooms are available
 2. perhaps a centralized scheduling mechanism
 3. Is this a representation issue?
 4. What can this group do to move some issues forward with scheduling?
 - iv. Bandwidth issue
 1. There is momentum behind esports athletic team, a couple classes and curriculum committee related to esports, we have teams that represent the university
 - a. a team of people playing a video game, team pays
 - b. gaming- data being transferred is minimal, charge money in budget for the egaming
 2. Dedicated bandwidth for certain times of the day,
 3. Is there a way to prioritize bandwidth items on campus, down the line for esports, a gaming center, they will need dedicated bandwidth
 4. QOF- quality of service, this type of traffic coming from this room will have priority, but it can be done
 5. If you are having bandwidth issues, is there a place faculty can go to get support?
 6. traffic from netflix, etc they have different lines, then computer speeds in offices go over different lines
 - a. on any one day, there are 100s of students playing from the dorms
 - v. if you get hardwired, gigabit to the core, fast speed, wifi is slower
- d. New Business
- i. Prioritize the list
 - ii. Action plan and timeline