

Faculty Technology User Committee Minutes

Date	February 19, 2008
Time	Called to order at 3:05 and adjourned at 4:00 pm.
Place	Washington Street Campus, Lynn Library, Room 112
Members Present	Steven Beckham, Brent Cavanaugh, Shannon Cornell, D'Dee Grove, Mary Munger, Bill Young,
Members Absent	Christopher Fincher, Mindy Graham, Sarah Uselding
Guests Present	Sherry Hendrix, Linda Hendrick, Lou Ann Seabourn
Purpose	To coordinate the mission of the FTUC with other technology committees.

Topic	Information/Discussion	Action to be Taken, Decision, Recommendation, Timeline
Minutes	Minutes were read individually by members.	Minutes were approved.
Old Business	<p>D'Dee began the meeting by briefing guests on the focus of this committee. As a result of faculty requests for better communication with regards to technology matters, FTUC was born from the "What Matters Most" meeting with a mission of facilitating the effective use of technology by faculty. However, other technology committees may be duplicating our purposes. The primary purpose of the Online Faculty Advisory Committee is to address best practices in online education. The Web Committee monitors the college website and myAC. The Technology Users Committee deals mostly with upcoming technology changes.</p> <p>Faculty questions were addressed next. A concern regarding the changed location of the WebCT link was submitted by email. Linda mentioned that this change was not an IT decision. In addition, a question about the timetable for the launching the new LMS was posed.</p> <p>After discussing the pros and cons of using myAC in traditional classes, Bill mentioned that many faculty members at first were reserved in investing time in learning the new technology for the fear that it would dissolve quickly when the grant money was gone.</p>	<p>Sherry will respond to these questions via email and aims to directly handle questions about WebCT and the LMS. She will filter questions through our committee in the future as well. Also, a newsletter will be sent out this week to all faculty members communicating more details about the LMS change.</p> <p>Linda reassured the committee that myAC is secured by a contract good through summer 2009. In addition, the principles will always be constant, while the details of the format (email, LMS, etc.) may change. This committee will reinforce the message that myAC is not going away anytime soon, and that interested faculty members can continue training on areas of myAC that will be helpful for their specific needs.</p>

	<p>The last question submitted to the committee regarded the 3 year limit for the age of computers used by faculty members. Sherry mentioned that the details were being addressed in the President's Council, and Linda also added that these changes must be phased in over time.</p>	<p>On February 26, the tactical technology plan will be presented to the Board regarding the rotation of newer electronics through faculty.</p>
New Business	<p>D'Dee presented a charge to the committee to pursue a new direction and to evaluate and consolidate purposes with other technology committees. To better communicate with faculty, we can form a central location for all technology committees, like myAC, where faculty members can post questions publicly and anonymously using a bulletin board format. We will then allow each technology committee to address questions under their own jurisdiction. Activity on the site can be measured based on commentary and participation.</p> <p>To better communicate with faculty, Sherry recommended sending information to the public relations branch, which will in turn send out a newsletter to faculty members briefing them on the details and changes the technology committees discuss. To address faculty concerns regarding the LMS change, Sherry described the "train the trainer" approach for the new Blackboard (more specifically called CE-6, a specific version of Blackboard). After 15 faculty members have been fully trained in the new LMS, they will in turn train faculty that teach online classes. It was mentioned that Claudie Biggers is currently offering an introductory orientation on the new LMS.</p> <p>Finally, Lou Ann gave a clear description of the purposes of the Online Faculty Advisory Committee. Their four areas of interest include addressing student readiness for online courses, ensuring security in online testing, establishing best practices in online education, and conducting future assessment of online courses.</p>	<p>Linda will work on importing all faculty members into myAC as a member of the FTUC so that they may seek answers and post questions and tips on the bulletin board.</p>
Next Meeting		<p>Tuesday, March 25, 2008 West Campus Building A, Room 105</p>

Respectfully Submitted,
Shannon Cornell

