

Academic Technology and Online Education Committee Minutes

November 12, 2013

HUB 123

3:30-5:00

Present: Liesl Lindley (Chair), Dan Bramer, Susan Dennett, Jen Greene, Rich Grossman, Brendon Hoch, James Lawson, Ann McClellan, Robyn Parker, Christian Roberson, Scott Robison, David Zehr

Unable to attend: Pam Anneser, Cheryl Baker, Nancy Betchart, Joann Guilmett, Hridaya Hall, Kathleen Norris, Meagan Shedd

Scribe: Christian Roberson

Acceptance of October 2013 minutes

Discussion: Student Preparedness for Online Courses

Liesl provided an overview of request from a faculty member for information on data on student success on online courses. Would there be an issue with releasing summary data of this nature? The committee's consensus was that there wouldn't be an issue for summary data.

Discussion: Moodle Privacy Issue

Barbara Lopez-Mayhew brought a concern from her students over the information shared in Moodle about students in a course and the schedules of the students in that course. Ann asked where this is shown. The concern is that the list of courses shows which students take what and could be a problem. Scott felt that the course information could be easily turned off for students so they could see who was in their class but not the list of courses those people are taking. Ann suggested an email from LTOE to campus notifying everyone of the change for privacy reasons.

Discussion: Test Scanning on Campus

Robyn provided an overview of the scantron process on campus. The old model processed centrally at the library included summary statistics on the exams. With Dr. Brown's retirement the university acquired several self-service machines instead. The new machine does not provide the statistics provided under the previous model. If you have a computer connected you can get the statistics but there are security concerns. Several faculty have spoken with Robyn and felt the solution currently offered doesn't address all the needs. Brendon also has concerns with the current solution and some of the logistical issues. Robyn is interested in finding out how much usage there is and using that to look at future solution changes. Ann asked for clarification of the security concern. Rich provided an overview of the potential privacy issues for using the machine if a public one was connected to it. Robyn pointed out one of the issues is a lack of convenience for faculty using them. Liesl suggested some sort of quick survey for the faculty asking about their needs/usage as well. Scott felt initial discussions were made with about 30 faculty who used bubblesheets in the last few years, so perhaps a more focused survey might make more sense. David Berona should have information about those users.

Update: Qualtrics and Collaborate

Scott provided an overview of the current status of Qualtrics. It is installed and running on campus and is available for faculty/staff/students to use. Collaborate is going to be rolling out soon. It is a webinar tool for synchronous meetings online. A product rep will be on campus this week to answer questions and demo features. LTOE is expecting to have integration with Moodle in January and also hopefully providing a link in myPlymouth for non-Moodle use on campus. BigBlueButton is also available, but encouraged for smaller, less formal groups. Rich provided an overview of how Collaborate works for supporting connectivity at a distance with our off-campus people. It should also address capacity issues with usage by PSU.

Next meeting: December 10, 2013 (meeting in HUB 109 for December)

Meeting adjourned at 4:45