

College Council Technology Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Time: 1-2pm

Place: Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83044713375?pwd=MlBMM2pxZkVKVkdQZFRWFEwR3pUZz09>

Attendance: Anthony Sena, Brad Isaacson (Chair), Monica Berger (Secretary), Sanjive Vaidya

Guest: Nathalie Zarifsi (iTEC)

MINUTES

- Unofficial vote to approve [minutes](#) from the October 18, 2022 meeting, unanimously accepted
- [Staff Technology Survey Questions](#). Issues to discuss include:
 - Agree to disseminate towards end of semester so that staff can respond during intersession
 - Whether to list all staff divisions and have a “check all that apply” or “drop-down list”
 - Where to use Likert scales, long/short text answers, etc.
- **Special guest: Nathalie Zarifsi**
- Worked at CUNY Central as well as Adelphi, Columbia. Experience in online education: started Adelphi Online and some initiatives at CU including Columbia Online, full online degree programs. At Adelphi, ran their equivalents of Faculty Commons & iTEC, managed the LMS which was open source, created a DH faculty commons that included students, students were taught how to curate knowledge online.
- Wants to know: How is technology manifesting itself at the college? What has worked, hasn't worked, should be revisited
- Discussion of Brightspace LMS (2DL) will replace Blackboard, we've been used the lower tier version of Blackboard
 - Competency-based education, good for students in progress, adaptive including remediation
 - It will be a slow migration for CUNY because 25 instances, F24 to F25, we'll probably be migrated in later wave; both Brightspace and Blackboard will run simultaneously until the full migration is over
 - Migration is easier now especially as Blackboard was the dominant player, so other platforms are designed to play well with data from Blackboard—we need to know what might break in advance of the migration

- Archive of Bb courses for at least 7 years
- How does Brightspace integrate with CUNYFirst?
- We're hoping to get an enterprise license for Brightspace, impact on Tech Fee unclear
- NZ will serve on CUNY CAT re. roll out of Brightspace, will be exploring possibilities
- BI: Is there a guiding principle or vision for technology on the campus? The committee has been discussing this as a way to enhance collaboration between students, faculty and like-minded programs. NZ: issues with connectivity, wifi issues, software/hardware not working. The OpenLab vs Blackboard division is artificial and problematic. iTEC is partnering with OpenLab to support faculty tech needs.
- There's a history of using the minimum tech for ed tech. NZ is interested in what's cutting edge; we're not using existing our technology well; need technology to be integrated and integrative.
- Technology should help students be prepared for the workforce. Computer labs should be set up for group work, project-based learning and at City Tech, this is not happening yet. NZ plans to get grant money for this.
- Apply what we've learned from three years of teaching online during the pandemic for the future
- Supporting hyflex is important, we need to know how to maximize it for student learning.
- BI: What do you think are the major tech/digital challenges for the current generation of students, faculty ? NZ: Will their families buy students computers and other needed devices?
- What technologies will we use? There too many platforms for students and faculty to learn and use. A lot of redundancies.
- MB: connect better with UFS, Roxanne Shirazi Grad Center
- S23, modalities waiver will be suspended by NY State. The policy is outdated, inflexible, and reflects the before times. Confusion about percentages of online vs in person. Future of online teaching at the college? NZ doesn't see us as being online based on the current NY State regulations. Tremendous amount of effort re. Curriculum Committee, CUNY, NY State. OLAC and assessment for online classes? Will faculty need to be certified in online teaching? Unclear where student learning dipped re. modality of the course. Perception that in-person is better for retention.