Learning Technologies Advisory Committee | Meeting Summary 2-20-19

Attendees: Jon Baris, Robert Cole, Kyle Collins, Jason Fritts, Matt Goeke, Matt Grawitch, Tim Howell, Lisieux Huelman, San Kwon, Mike Lewis, Debie Lohe, Stephen McMillin, Steve Rogers, Cindy Rubbelke

Provost Gillis also joined this meeting.

Meeting Summary:

- Approval of minutes:
  - Steven Rogers: motion to approve, Cindy Rubbelke: second, all approved
- Informational updates
- Introductions to Dr. Gillis
- Dr. Gillis
  - Does the institution have a policy regarding continuation of work during unexpected university closings? A: Not that we know of. That type of policy would not be in LTAC’s purview.
  - What does this group feel are the biggest issues in learning technologies on campus?
    - Lack of trust between SLU community and ITS’s capacity to support technologies, considering considerable cuts in IT staffing and changes in IT structure
    - Change fatigue
    - Seeing technologies wear out and not be maintained
  - What about successes? Lecture capture pilot and learning about a failure before committing to a product; seeing faculty using more technology on campus; change of LTAC composition to be more faculty driven and seeing more diverse campus needs;
- LMS Transition planning
  - Questions/comments regarding LMS Transition Plan:
    - Appreciate amount of time of in-person and online professional development devoted to transition;
    - Q: Regarding SLU training materials reference- will these be SLU training materials or Canvas training material? A: It will be a combo- will be some links out to Canvas training material, and some SLU specific materials managed by SLU. May be a demo course in Canvas vs. SLU website. Important will be ease of access and ability to search so faculty can find what they need easily.
    - The more faculty we get to participate in those training sessions, that will be critical.
    - Q: How do we offer in person support with so little IT support available? A: We’ve built budget into the proposal to allow some temp hires for 12-16 months to do that training, and ATC staff will continue to be available for some training.
    - Q: What does the budget proposal and revision process look like? How do we know the project will be funded at the requested level vs. approved for less funding? A: IT governance process vets that out. The next place it goes to is the IT Steering Committee, who has the potential to request a reduced budget request, but that’s not typical. And several key leaders already have indicated their general support for this – CIO Hakanson, Provost Gillis, CFO Heimbrger. Provost Gillis indicated that this is a top priority; Mike
Lewis shared that the CIO has committed to making this the top IT capital budget priority for FY21.

- Q: Is this coming at the expense of any other priorities? A: Certainly a request of this size will come at the expense of other requests, but nothing as large as this one. And we won’t know exactly where the chips will fall until we know where the University stands as we get closer to the FY21 budget. However, Provost Gills and CIO Hakanson have expressed clear support for this project to be funded, as have the deans.

  - Next- if this group votes to approve this transition plan, then Debie and Kyle will move forward to map out a more detailed roll-out and implantation plan; the planning process will be iterative, with LTAC and CADD members, as well as others, having input. Likely will establish a “Canvas Advisory Board” (or something like that) to shepherd this process. If LTAC votes to move forward, Debie and Kyle will seek CADD endorsement, then prepare communications to go out to the community broadly to make sure everyone knows what is happening.

- Panopto implementation update (See Slides/Handout [LINK])
  - Matt Goeke walked through PPT slides.
  - Q: What about installation for non-PC or off-campus machines? A: Will have that available shortly. Q: When will online training be available? Originally the group was told February. A: Hopefully very soon. Still working to make those available. Q: If we’re already sending bodies to individual classrooms to check Panopto, can they also check the other technology functionalities while they’re there? A: That will go on the list, we will definitely do that. Q: Will it be installed in the ATC? A: Yes.

- Other topics:
  - Skype – problems continue: Robert Cole proposed starting a process to explore a Skype alternative, Cindy Rubbelke seconds.
  - Outdated computer in classroom and printer issues in Reinert Hall – Kyle will investigate
  - Updates to Amazon Alexa?
    - Continuing to work with Amazon teams on implementation. Sending regular updates to student users regarding new and/or relevant Alexa features.
    - Alexa project selected for ELI’s horizon report.
    - Amazon donated 100 additional Echo Plus devices to have SLU pilot putting them in conference rooms.
    - Looking into other voice control projects

**Decisions / Recommendations Made:** ITS/LTAC will begin exploring alternatives to Skype.