



University Technology Committee | University of Wisconsin- Whitewater

Thursday, October 29th, 2020 | 1pm to 2pm | Webex

Matt Aschenbrener	Matt Vick X	Karen Brueggeman
Max Servais	Elizabeth Watson X	Kris Curran X
Paul Waelchli X	Bob Mertens	Robert Schramm X
Trisha Barber X	Patty Fragola	Elena Pokot
Mary Acuna X	Dane Seckar-Anderson X	Sara Deschner
Kevin Potter		

Minutes

1. Review September 24th, 2020 meeting minutes (handout)

Minutes were reviewed and approved.

2. LTC Update (handout)

a. Matt Vick Introduction

Elena Pokot gave the committee an update on the LTC Director position. Former Director, Nicole Weber has accepted a new position away from UW-W. Dr. Matt Vick will be taking over LTC Director responsibilities on an interim basis. Elena introduced Matt Vick to the committee.

Matt Vick went over the LTC Update handout with the group. He gave a summary on the training sessions that were conducted over the summer and early fall:

- 63 different training topics offered during summer/early fall
- 979 attendees at 148 training sessions
 - 113 participants at “What is HyFlex?” (top attended training)
 - 69 at HyFlex Technology Training Overview
 - 58 at Instructor Presentation of Content
 - 49 at HyFlex technology Training: Hands-On
 - 49 at Exams and Quizzes Online

He also went over the upcoming Instructional Development Opportunities:

- Asynchronous Online Teaching Institute (formerly Online Blended Institute)
- Thursday, October 29, 9:00am Discussion board faculty panel (w/ LEARN CENTER)
- Monday, November 2, 1:30 pm HyFlex follow up: Faculty success stories w/ LEARN
- Tuesday, November 3, 10:00 am Student Engagement and Attendance: Canvas Insights w/ Allison Prather, Jessica Stein

Lastly, Matt talked about some recent issues with breakout sessions and how the LTC has some current workarounds for them. Kris Curran added that the workarounds worked great for her class.

3. Windows Self-Service Software Installation Transition (handout)

Elena Pokot gave a brief update on the transition from Zenworks to MECM. Many campus computers already have the new Software Center installed. Once 50% of the devices have Software Center, ICIT will then begin to uninstall Zenworks. ICIT will be sending out a communication to all faculty and staff about this transition.

4. UW-Whitewater Net-ID Login Page Update (handout)

Dane Seckar-Anderson talked about the upcoming update to the Net-ID Login Page. This page will be getting an updated look in order to stay in line with current UW-W branding and style standards, as well as to be more mobile friendly. The update will be taking place on Monday, November 2nd.

5. Connect IT (handout)

Dane Seckar-Anderson went over the upcoming October issue of Connect IT. The main story this month is Cybersecurity Awareness. As part of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, ICIT created a short Qualtrics quiz for a faculty and staff. Those who complete the quiz will have a chance at winning some raffle prizes.

Additional topics of the newsletter included:

- UDOIT Tool available in Canvas.
- Zenworks to MECM transition
- IT Employee Off Boarding Procedure
- Updated Net-ID Login Page
- Upcoming Training and Workshops

6. Campus 2030 Thought Experiment

As part of a previous discussion from the last UTC meeting, Elena asked the committee to come prepared to discuss a thought experiment shared by Kris Curran:

“Let’s pretend it’s 2030. Enrollment has declined and state funding has been reduced annually for the past ten years, yet UWW is financially solvent and contributing to the public good. What does our institution look like? What did we do to get here?”

Elizabeth Watson started the discussion by talking about segregated services. She suggested that it would make sense to expand more of our local services to a virtual environment. She posed questions as to what these services would consist of, if there would be an online fee, and how should they be presented to students.

Elena echoed Elizabeth’s thoughts by suggesting that as a campus, we will most likely never go back to the level of physical presence that existed prior to COVID. As instruction goes through a digital transformation, so must our services.

Kris Curran added that as an instructor, she agrees that students who are mainly learning online need to have access to the same services as those on campus.

Elizabeth added that an example of this virtual transition of services has been the Career Fairs. These have been very well attended, and much easier to hold virtually. Allows more access to a wider range of students.

Paul Waelchli jumped in with a few questions surrounding the infrastructure of remote services. He wondered just how much of the traditional campus experience will be sought after once COVID is no longer an issue, or will this remote experience shift to a more permanent way of life. He also asked what is the appropriate and sustainable IT backbone for these services and experiences, what is the tradeoff?

Elena explained the notion of Digital Transformation, which the idea was not to mirror a 1 to 1 copy from physical to virtual, but instead change and adapt the material/service to the digital world by embracing available technology mediums and methodology. She asked the committee their thoughts on services that currently live in both worlds (physical and virtual).

Elizabeth suggested that Health services will be a muddy mix, especially when it comes to licenses. However, Career Services may be a lot more successful by keeping their services blended. She added that research for undergraduate students could benefit from remote collaboration as well.

Elena posed the question, if the virtual environment is setup properly, would the collaboration be more beneficial? She noted that strong teams can overcome the environment. The technology is there, it’s the interactions that need to be adjusted. One of the issues that is holding people back is that they are trying to overcome the technology instead of embracing and transforming with it.

Paul stated that when it comes to access to scientific materials in the library, most have preferred using digital versions for the past decade. However, digital does not always mean cost-saving. Because of the need to have unlimited access to library content, license prices become much more expensive with digital than physical. In terms of media, it is more cost-effective to buy a video and show in a physical space. Now, if we want unlimited use of a digital asset, we need to pay an annual rate.

Kris Curran suggested that future appropriations should shift to digital over physical.

Paul continued by explaining that the vast majority of his budget is for digital assets. His staff is always prioritizing digital versions over physical (ebooks, etc.) in order to give the most access possible. Paul added that as a university, we will need to start making more difficult decisions when it comes to how we choose to share resources in order to maximize unique collections of content as well as provide access to them. He concluded by saying similarly to Elizabeth, licenses will be a big issues going forward, at this time institutions are not allowed to share licenses.

Kris asked why aren't there more centralized services system wide? Wouldn't this make more sense when it comes to saving money for the budget? Ideally, there would be services that could be accessed from anywhere no matter which UW-System institution a student attends.

Elizabeth explained that every UW campus has different segregated fees, but there are many barriers when it comes to creating a true centralized services pool.

Elena wanted to thank the committee for their contributions to this discussion. She wanted to summarize the main points of the conversation:

1. As more content/services becomes available digitally, licenses and the issues that come with them will need to be managed/addressed timely and with serious consideration on how they impact digital learning and instruction.
2. Look for out-of-the-box methods to increase the availability of central services for UW-System students.
3. Embrace Digital Transformation. There are legal and bureaucratic hurdles that prevent us from completely embracing the digital environment. Current business models are becoming obsolete and are limiting the growth and potential of our university. The technology is there to change the way we work, teach and learn, we need to recognize this find ways to break the status quo.

Next Meeting: November 19th.