UAS Teaching, Learning, & Technology Roundtable (TLTR) minutes
November 14, 2016

1. Call to order: 1:34 pm
   In attendance: Robin Gilcrist, Cody Bennett, Kimberly Schulte, Susie Freero, Marnie Chapman, Maureen O'Halloran, Jill Hanson, Wendy Miles, Tim Powers, Glenn Wright, Susan Kendig, Lance Twitchell, Jennifer Ward, Ann Spehar.

2. Minutes from October 11th meeting approved.
   A request was noted and agreed upon that future minutes include synopsis of topics covered with no mention of specific names.

3. Helpdesk Update: (Cody)
   A request for a "Quarterly IT update" was made in response to history of non-response from IT. Cody agreed to the request.

   There has been a history of complaints about Blackboard glitches during weekends, particularly when they coincide with assignment due dates. IT has resolved the issues that it has control over but Cody noted that there will likely be times when service will be affected beyond our control from Blackboard side of things.

   - Data migration: (Cody)
     Data migration to Fairbanks server is still underway and slow. If you see whale tail appear on course home page, that indicates that your page has been migrated.
     We're waiting for fall semester to finish before migrating current courses;
     Courses from previous semesters are currently being migrated, working from most recent on back.
     Cody announced a plan to hold a public Q&A with Cody, Mona, Maureen, and Kim Schulte. It will probably be held on a Friday afternoon in the not-too-distant future.
     Details will be announced once they're known.

     Some wrinkles involved with Google email transition are still being ironed out, particularly involving shared resources: departmental emails, departmental calendars, etc.
     IT is working to improve collaborative (ie, departmental) accounts.
     Old shared departmental email accounts have not been converted to Google email. If you'd like yours converted, please contact Help Desk.
     Emails will not be stored if you leave UAS. Please transfer anything you might need in the future to another email server or desktop if you are to leave.

4. SIBL (Single Instance Blackboard) Update: Maureen
   No big updates. Maureen plans to schedule drop-in hours for Q&A's and accepts email or phone questions any time.
   Spring 2017 course sites have been created. You can tell it's a real course because it has a CRN. If a course home page shows a whale tail, it's part of SIBL.

   Course linking will be different. We're waiting for finalized versions to be worked out. People who plan to link courses for next semester should wait until the final version is ready.
   What's different? Linking courses will create a new course.
   What's the same? We'll still have access to original courses and a tool will be available to allow us to take care of it ourselves.

Maureen pointed out some pluses to SIBL:
  i. Access to software through UAA & UAF: ie, improved video hosting services.
  ii. UAS survey tool will remain. (Blackboard's survey tool is not very useful.)

A request was made for withdrawn students to be converted to guest status to allow instructors to advise students and to maintain records of past work.

Another request was made for instructors to receive a heads-up about students who've dropped or withdrawn to allow for quick intervention in cases when students might not actually need to drop. This request will be sent to Faculty Senate to initiate such a system.

Maureen pointed out that UASOnline has an internal early warning system to allow instructors to quickly see who's struggling. Instructors must set up criteria for early alert. Maureen agreed to investigate usefulness of this tool.

To access Blackboard as student, Maureen recommends creating a guest account as student, which involves going through UAS Online ("Student View" can be quirky); this feature still works in SIBL.

Migrations have been smooth so far but if something seems wrong, please contact Help Desk.

5. Google Apps: No updates. Will be removed from future agendas.

6. Upcoming Agenda items:

   - Strategic Pathways:
     Some wonder how this will affect (if at all) distance Business courses that will soon be under umbrella of A&S.
     Recommendation: ask Maren to be a guest at next month's meeting.

   - Classroom upgrades: three classrooms in Egan (109, 115, Glacier View) used in distance education are having audio glitches. Lance has tried Adobe connect, etc.
     Marnie and Kim invited the new Juneau TLTR (see below) to contact them to learn what they use.
     If anyone has issues with a room, Cody says it'd be helpful to send a minute or two of video showing the system that's in place and what the problem(s) is/are.

   - Some instructors are looking for smart board or other technology to meet their specific classroom needs. A Collaborate workshop in which experienced distance instructors to share tips & experiences would be helpful.

   - Next meeting: we should obtain a report of how library printing is going.

   Juneau TLTR: Tim Powers, Lance Twitchell, Glenn Wright, School of Ed rep.

7. Meeting adjourned: 2:56 pm