

TLTR Meeting – 12/11/2008

In attendance:

Attendees: Marnie Chapman, Denise Blankenship, Susie Feero, Marsha Gladhart, Colleen McKenna, Maria Moyer, Rich Grant , Brian Hitchcock, Michael Ciri

General Introductions: The meeting began with members of the committee going around the table and introducing themselves.

Status Updates on Subcommittee Work:

Colleen and Marsha reported on the results from subcommittee work last year.

Group 1 – Effective and consistent tools for student support

Two weeks before class students get an email but it goes to their UA accounts. New students don't know to check their UA accounts and miss vital information about preparing for their classes.

Proposal 1 requested that students be informed by postcard, how to access their UA accounts. This proposal was endorsed by the Student Retention Committee. Registrar Barbara Hegel said that she was ready to move forward when given the go ahead, which the committee is still waiting for from the Chancellor.

A suggestion that came up in the meeting was the possibility of an automated call saying that you've registered for classes. If we have a phone number is there a way to get this going?

Group 2? - Classroom Instructional Technologies

The pros and cons of \$5,000 smart boxes was discussed, particularly considering that lots of different media can now be played from your laptop. Right now they are putting in a new smart box in the lecture hall. Marsha provided feedback on her experience using the technology which was mixed.

Michael discussed the longer term possibility of getting rid of data projectors and replacing with them with big screen TVs.

A possibility that is more labor intensive is to integrate the technology into the classrooms needed to create pod-casts of their class. This needs to be looked at carefully, as it works great for sage on the stage style teaching, but not collaborative work groups etc.

The possibility of different outlet configurations for students bringing their own laptops was also discussed but Michael said the job is challenging and expensive.

It was reported that a new laptop lounge being created in the computer lab. Michael hopes to make UAS campuses more laptop friendly. Some suggestions:

- Printing an outlet map
- Booster seats in the classroom so students sit at a better height for typing on a laptop friendly tables that provide a umbilicus of outlets for laptops
- Creation of a special “How to make our campus more laptop friendly” task force.

Group 3 - Learning Objects

This group was closed as open courseware already has a ton of useful learning object. UAF is creating a portal to it some of this content. A suggestion was made to hold a brown bag on how to find and implement learning objects from Open Courseware in the spring. Elise will look into finding someone able to present on this topic.

Additional Items Discussed:

Charge from the Provost:

Maria Moyer made a statement from the Provost in his absence. He is going to be redoing the charge of the committee. He hopes to reshape the focus of the committee to fit with his teaching and learning vision. Is interested in a change in focus, covering fewer operational issues and a forming a more strategic focus. It was suggested that the current committee takes strategic goals and makes them operational. The committee hopes to help the provost gain context regarding our charge.

Brown Bag Lunches:

In the past, TLTR hosted a series of brown bag lunches where faculty members are able to share technology driven teaching methods for a half hour at a time. Sessions were well attended. It was a way to provide faculty more time to share what they're doing. Elise will take on the responsibility of bringing back brown bags. We'll set up a time slot for making a brief announcement at Spring Convocation to let faculty know in case they are interested in presenting.

Meeting Schedule for Next Semester:

The committee plans to meet once a month on the last Wednesday of the month at noon. The Provost still needs to fill the following vacant seats: Students, Humanities, Business, Career Ed (Robin Gilcrest). New committee members need to get signed into the TLTR blog and forums.