TLTR Regional Meeting
January 16, 2014
Novatney Conference Room and audio

In attendance: Lee Graham, Kimberley Schulte, Jason Amundson, Carol Hedlin, John Long, Ann Spehar, Marnie Chapman, Susie Feero, Maureen O'Halloran, Gabriel Wechter, Anselm Staack, Bethany Wilkes, Jill Hanson

The committee made no actionable decisions during this meeting.

Blackboard security issues

The primary discussion of the meeting was the problem with how Blackboard treats guests. Webmeeting, Webmeeting archives, and Collaborate are not currently FERPA compliant. Only a few things should be visible to guests. Everything else should be locked down unless instructor allows guests. Webmeeting, webmeeting archive, and collaborate are the biggest concerns. There is currently no way to close Webmeeting and Webmeeting archive. The link is set to deny guests, but it's not working.

The TLTR committee will draft a memo to Provost Caulfield informing him that IT needs to work to make Blackboard more secure and to inform faculty about security issues. The memo will suggest that Announcements, Getting Started, and Syllabus are open, but that all other links default to being closed. There needs to be continuous monitoring to assure that the defaults don't change.

Lee will talk to Rick directly to expedite the process of fixing the current security issues. A message will also be sent to deans and directors (Provost council list) to pass on to faculty.

IT representation at TLTR meetings

There has been no IT representation present at the previous two TLTR meeting. We need somebody here to cover for Michael Ciri when he is unable to attend.

Sloan-C sessions

We previously discussed the possibility of hosting Sloan-C sessions at UAS. Nobody has looked into this yet.

Letter regarding rural access to technology

There were no additional comments to the letter. It will be sent out shortly to ???. It was noted that the state is also moving forward with improving broadband access.

iTeach2 sessions
There are two upcoming iTeach sessions in May (Juneau) and June (Sitka) for e-Learning faculty.

Audio portion of Collaborate
The audio portion of Collaborate can be connected through the phone, which reduces bandwidth load and make it easier for people with limited bandwidth to participate in Collaborate meetings. Is this being pursued? How does faculty make this happen?

Wordpress/external blogging tools
Apparently there is still lack of clarity regarding the university's policy toward external blogging tools. It was suggested that we look into how other universities handle this issue, and how it impacts us if we only publish on UAS Online (and are not allowed to use external tools). The Regional Web Strategy Group is discussing this issue, but only in the context of discussing academic use within classes (?).

It is easy to violate FERPA with external tools, and that becomes a personal liability. Internal tools, on the other hand, are university liability. Why can't tools be brought under the UAS umbrella/security?

It was suggested that TLTR make a recommendation on using social media. The TLTR committee needs to educate itself on best practices and look at benchmark universities. MOOCs are being used as recruiting tools as are other social media; this shouldn't be discredited.

Note that Maureen wrote a document some time ago that advises faculty on how to use social media. She will re-distribute to the TLTR committee (?).