

TLTR Regional Meeting
February 20, 2015
Chancellor's Conference Room

In attendance: Ann Spehar, Susie Feero, Marnie Chapman, Lee Graham, Bethany Wilkes, Richard Simpson, Jason Amundson, Diana Collins, Kimberly Schulte, John Long, Kathi Baldwin, Maureen O'Halloran, Andrew McDonough

1. Anti-plagiarism software

Marnie Chapman and Maureen O'Halloran reported on issues related to anti-plagiarism software.

FERPA: Student papers do constitute educational records, even before they are graded, and cannot be distributed with identifying information. They can be voluntarily submitted to anti-plagiarism software, or can be submitted if all identifying information is removed.

Copyright: Students who submit papers retain their copyright to the paper. It has been argued that anti-plagiarism software strengthens copyright.

Ethical issues: Results from anti-plagiarism software should be verified on a case-by-case basis to see whether high/low scores indicate plagiarism. The goal isn't to just catch plagiarizers, but also to teach students about plagiarism.

Considering two options: SafeAssign (which is free with Blackboard) and Turnitin

- Turnitin has more features and capability. UAS could consider using both; e.g., purchasing a limited number of Turnitin licenses for courses that need the extra features, while everybody else uses SafeAssign.
- SafeAssign doesn't automatically send papers to a global database.
- Both give source of plagiarism.

SafeAssign is available at UAA and UAF.

The committee passed the following resolution to be forwarded to the Provost and the Faculty Senate:

The UAS Regional TLTR requests that UAS Information Technology immediately activate the Blackboard tool "SafeAssign". UAS Regional TLTR also recommends to

the Provost that faculty training and support and best practices for use of SafeAssign be made available.

In favor: 13

Opposed: 0

2. Faculty development opportunities on copyright in the (online) classroom

Bethany Wilkes proposed a collaboration between the library and TLTR to provide faculty development opportunities on copyright.

The library receives lots of questions about copyright issues (e.g., in Blackboard). The library faculty has discussed holding webinars and brownbag seminars to help inform other faculty about copyright issues.

iTeach has included units on copyright; this seems like a natural partnership and will be discussed in more detail.

3. IT report

Diana Collins gave several IT updates

Infrastructure and engineering position: IT is having trouble finding an appropriate candidate for this position, and as a result is currently training a current employee to solve intermediate level problems.

VDI project: IT is working on “Bring Your Own Device”, a project that would allow students to log on to (expensive) UAS software with their own computers from on-campus [\(in the Egan Library and Classroom wing\)](#). This would provide students with better software access while also reducing demand on computers around campus.

Blackboard upgrades:

March 1: The test environment of the Blackboard upgrade will [be available to faculty in the Sandbox](#).

May 8-10: The Blackboard upgrade will move to the live environment (after spring semester grades are due).

Academic technology:

Academic technology will soon be requesting software requests for 2015-16 and will also target classrooms that are in need of technology upgrades.

Media services:

Media services will soon be going through a program review to assess what services can be provided and what services should be retired.

Helpdesk:

The IT Helpdesk has started gathering data on different types of calls that are being received. The focus for now is on collecting data from phone calls; e-mails will be included into the data analysis at a later time. IT should have results by the end of semester to present to TLTR.

4. Peer Review of Courses

Sitka TLTR submitted a recommendation to regional TLTR regarding the peer review process for (online) courses. Key points:

- Endorsed a voluntary peer review process
- Should apply equally to online and face-to-face courses
- Did not identify a specific rubric to follow
- Noted that it is an opportunity to document scholarship of teaching
- Should be a private process where the outcome is controlled by faculty.

Ann Spehar, Marnie Chapman, Maureen O'Halloran, and Kathi Baldwin will draft a recommendation from the Regional TLTR to send forward to the Provost. The recommendation will focus on building infrastructure through achievable goals.

5. Adjourn

Next meeting: 27 March 2015, 1:00-2:30 pm