

UAS
Teaching, Learning, & Technology Roundtable (TLTR)
February 8, 2018

Call to order (present, ~~not present~~)

- Cody Bennett
- Maureen O'Halloran
- Susie Feero
- Michael Ciri
- Tim Powers
- Kim Matsuura
- Jennifer Ward
- John Ingman
- Jon Martin
- Anne Spehar
- Virgil Fredenberg

Minutes from November 16, 2017 meeting

- Sent out this morning.
- Minutes approved.

Common Topics to review/discuss for semester

- TLTR website needs a look over. Kim will need Colin to help with that.
 - o Minutes are not presently current on website. They are uploaded, but not being reflected on the webpage.
 - o Susie & Kim will connect and work on that.
- People should propose things to add to the agenda.

LMS Information Governance (Susie)

- BBUG (many of us are on). It is not a governance group, but should be coming at some point.
- If Michael hears anything from his level, he will notify Kim/Susie.

Course Shells (Michael)

- Currently, registrars release the term on a specific date for the semester. It is flipping a switch in banner that makes the course visible in UA Online. There is some coordination between registrar and ITS for making shells available.
- Prior to the go-live date, staff are busy building the upcoming semester; they roll current fall to next fall and then make lots of changes for hard cutover to have most of changes in place. Prior to the date of releasing the term, the courses for the term are less and less accurate.
- UAS' perspective: we aim to live in the best of both worlds. We want to keep some of our tailored solutions. We have the ability to initiate the creation of a course shell earlier. We can do some things differently than UAA/UAF. We believe that we could set up a system (not creating *ALL* course sites) but allow for a faculty member to see into the future to identify what courses are slated for next fall. *It would be necessary for the faculty to know that this could be inaccurate.* We could give a button to then generate a course shell (which would not make it visible by students). A module in the portal could show future courses, and at a point it gives a button to "take me to my course".

- If someone built their course shell but then there were changes afterwards we would need to maintain distinction. Ex: JD1 class built and modified, but then the class changes to J01, there would be two shells where copying data over is necessary. Trying to be cognizant of overwriting, there is nothing from the system that would overwrite the course. The earlier someone gets in the higher the probability something changes (course number change is hardest, course title is easiest). If an instructor change happens, the new instructor would have a pre-modified course site.
- Michael's recommendation is that this group identify a number-of-weeks-prior to go-live date. Module would need some language to make sure faculty understand that the module is not a final list of courses.
- Technical group could come up with a proposal for what the execution would look like. Michael is willing to work with the technical team to flesh out these ideas for this group. It is not a lot of work, but it is some work. It is possible this will not be available for the upcoming term.
- Once the TLTR has a proposal from Michael & technical staff, TLTR would make the request to implement.
- TLTR endorses moving forward with IT crafting the proposal of what changes might be implemented. The instruction is not to make the change, but to craft a detailed proposal for TLTR to feed to Faculty Senate for approval. Once we have this detailed proposal, we would then decide on a formal recommendation that we would put forward to faculty senate/provost.
- March 18th is the release date of the Fall 2018 term. Two weeks prior to that is Mar 4. This doesn't give a reasonable timeline for proposal, recommendation and approvals to happen. Michael is willing to commit to do the work, but we will need to follow the appropriate channels.
- Proposal can come via email. Thought is to have it be the week of 2/19. Consider blessing the emailed proposal at TLTR, Susie will talk with Megan to see if we could potentially communicate a recommendation to faculty senate for vote on march.
- An idea was proposed to have a "pilot" to have an early glance prior to the confirmed approval from Faculty Senate, it would grease the skids to implement the "real" solution as soon as Faculty Senate gives approval.

Course Shells (Other)

- We had looked for additional faculty input, but realized that the request was too broad.
- Types of things we might consider:
 - o What is present or hidden button-wise for students.
 - o Changing the name of menu items ("webmeeting" becomes "collaborate" to align with UAF/UAA)
- Couldn't happen prior to fall. There are things to iron out for any change. (For instance, copying old course shell would bring webmeeting over in addition to new "collaborate" item.)
- We should consider updating our help resources to indicate the change (begin using "collaborate" vs "webmeeting" in help webpages at CELT/IDN and Helpdesk).
- As the Blackboard Implementation Work Group considers specific changes for the default course shells, they will bring them to this group.
- There was also conversation about the "UAS Resources" link and what should be added.

- We historically had a disciplinary resources page, but it seems to have fallen by the wayside. We could have the “Egan Library” link break out into disciplinary or topical things. We are trying to address the concern of, “why do I need to add these links every semester, why can’t there just be a collection of links for all ___ (ANTH, BIOL, etc) courses?”
- It was suggested that we put this on the future discussion list.

Regional Technology Update (Cody)

- The UA Blackboard Learn upgrade in late December went smoothly. Essentially it was a non-issue to move to Q2 2017 CU5, save for some questions/concerns about the changes in New Box View product that replaced Crocodoc.
- There have been some cross-MAU communication improvements to share information more broadly and assure other support staff are aware of possible broad-reaching issues.
- Blackboard Collaborate has had some issues lately, both with Windows and Mac users. Windows 10 has been “holding” mic/speaker inputs from collaborate, and Mac’s Collaborate Launcher uses the incorrect Java platform introducing some issues. Contact the Helpdesk if you need any support.
- Helpdesk update: we have broad coverage, but continue to have some staffing level challenges. Please let Cody know if you have any questions or concerns.
- UA is migrating to Banner 9 by this fall. There will be some changes to the UI of Banner, as well as UAOnline. Details can be found at OIT’s Banner support pages.
- Information Systems (Mona’s shop) has made some improvements over the past few months which should result in more up-time. We now have better fault-tolerance and service redundancy.
- Employee Virtual Computers is ready for the non-ITS early adopters! The best candidates are desktop users, but others may also find value in having the ability to connect to their virtual computer from any device that has a web browser. We have had the technology in development for several years. Michael has been using a virtual machine for several years. This should be considered an opt-in solution to help reduce computer waste stream as very old machines can be used to connect to the new virtual computers.

Faculty Alliance Update (re: Blackboard Learn Upgrades) (Michael)

- There has been discussion system-wide about finding multiple windows for major Blackboard Learn upgrades. At the request of Faculty Alliance, Karl Kowalski is developing a survey for faculty to assist with finding two or more times per year rather than an annual update near winter break.
- Additionally, Faculty Alliance has recommended that we run 1 major stable release behind so that the release we are deploying has been around for some time to receive bug-fixes.

CELT Update (Maureen)

- Faculty Liaison position is being redefined and we be re-announced.
- The Scholarship of Learning and Teaching (STL) [website](#) has been built out with more resources.
- Blackboard Learn Users Group (BLUG) – had first meeting, this is a users interest group not a governance group (that is still to come) – monthly meetings plus an “organization” in

Blackboard Learn with discussion forums, a place to share experience and opportunities to give feedback to statewide IT.

- Meetings will be on the 4th Tuesdays of each Month (next meeting is Feb 22)
- Monday Morning Mentor (running through May) is to renew next year. Options include: (a) stay the same, (b) add additional tracks like “New Teacher”, “Online Teacher” and “Academic Leader” at \$700 each, or (c) Subscribe to the full library at \$2500/yr, though funding has not been identified.
- Tech Tuesdays will start again next week. These are online segments (20-30 min) with a “studio audience” in Juneau. Upcoming sessions include [Collaborate Ultra](#), [Kaltura](#), etc.
- Kaltura Pilot is underway. We need faculty and students to evaluate during trial to help UAS consider long-term adoption. A question was raised about how UAS would decide if the pilot is successful? There will be further discussion in BBIWG. Also, considering scope of potential use, we might be able to use the underlying application whitelabeled by kaltura (Collaj). Different licensing might be possible. We certainly want to plan for long term sustainability with whatever tools we consider.
- Longer workshops (hybrid where possible, not all technology focused) are also being scheduled. Suggested topics include “teaching reading skills”.
- Ongoing online Quality Matters courses are available through Alaska Statewide consortium
- Egan Room 108 is online, and CELT is point of contact for training.
- The Digital Faculty Fellows – Reid Brewer, Alison Ziegler, Kitty LaBounty, Robin Gilcrist (recipients of the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation grant for 1 year) – projects are progressing. [See more info here.](#)
- CELT will be distributing a Peer Review survey (currently under development). It is a request from Provost Carey to get data about what is being done for assessment of quality of courses because it is part of accreditation. We are trying to collect this perspective to make plans for the future.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- March 8th at 10:30 – 12:00
 - April 12th at 10:30 – 12:00
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