Regional TLTR Minutes
September 20, 2018

Regional TLTR members present: Cody Bennett, Susie Feero, Virgil Fredenberg, Wendy Horn, John Ingman, Kimberly Matsuura, Maureen O'Halloran, Anne Spehar, and Tim Powers, Sr. Also present: Robin Gilcrist

Minutes from April 12, 2018: Approved

Regional TLTR Topics:

VoiceThreads: The UAS Sitka Campus has purchased a 3-year license with Title III funds. VoiceThreads can be used for presentations with comments and annotations, discussions, quizzes. It will be integrated into Blackboard. It's currently on a test server and getting tested by members of the UAS Blackboard Workgroup. It's expected to be in production some time this semester. The Instructional Design Center will be creating training materials and will send out announcements when it is available for all faculty.

Accessibility for Digital Content: This is an important topic UAS is working on this academic year. CELT will offer an accessibility workshop on October 5th to show faculty things that can be done with course content to make it more accessible. This need is not limited to disability services since it often helps students with different learning styles.

Teaching Squares: There is an introduction meeting on September 21st for those interested in participating in Teaching Squares this semester. It was first introduced at convocation this year. This project includes faculty observing other faculty, self-reflection activities, and sharing between peers. This is a faculty-driven activity and guidance from Kaia Hendrickson.

Digital Faculty Fellows: The Provost sent out an email to all faculty with information on the Digital Faculty Fellows project this academic year. The email included an application. The application deadline has since been changed to October 19th to give faculty more time to develop their ideas and/or contact Maureen O'Halloran for assistance. Faculty should also discuss their proposal with their dean/director. If awarded, there are credits of release and funds for software/hardware/etc.

Upgrade for Blackboard: During the winter break, there will be a major version upgrade. UAS may also apply latest Blackboard theme at the same time. Theme changes colors and icons. Most features won't change or move location but the colors/appearance will change. Faculty will have about four weeks to test it out on the test server. Using the new theme does have benefits: mobile devices will have better options. Options for color themes are unknown at this time. IT will know more after the upgrade is installed on the test server. A bulleted list of changes was requested. Cody expects there will be communication to faculty about the upgrade, including the option to test the changes on the test server faculty in November. There is interest in having a simple compare/contrast of old theme to new theme, as well as the upgrade.

What are the primary changes between major versions? What are the primary changes between themes? November 9th is when the test server (classes-test.alaska.edu) will have the major upgrade as well as, potentially the theme change. It was requested IT send out a bulleted list of things to check on classes-test.alaska.edu. If the test is successful then the change will be applied December 21st to the production server (classes.alaska.edu).

Regional TLTR Meetings: Our future meetings this academic year will be held using Blackboard Ultra. The co-chairs will send out a link for the meeting with the next agenda.

IT Update

- IT is hiring new students – brought in 6 new students in the past few weeks.
- Accessibility is a hot topic.
- Banner 9 upgrade is coming. Most faculty don't use it on a daily basis.
- Cody will be going to Educause this year along with Tim Powers, Sr.
- IT is doing research and development on role-based accounts. Accounts will be tied to positions instead of individuals to address issues such as what happens when person leaves a position but then becomes a student, for example.
- UA TV is being discontinued. The current server is Flash-based and not being used much any more. Live streamed events will be delivered via YouTube UAS channel's brand account. Many people can contribute to a brand account. Other departments should contact Media department about adding that account to the University account. The site is: http://youtube.com/uasoutheast. You can add "/live" to this URL for latest live stream. Contact Katy Jordan for more information about YouTube channel or if you have something to post there.

CELT Report to Regional TLTR

Maureen's contact information is: maohalloran@alaska.edu, 796-6557 (or X6557 if you are on any UAS campus.

The new Egan Library liaison is Kaia Henrickson. Her contact information is: kbhenrickson@alaska.edu, 796-6515 (or X6515 if you are on any UAS campus).

The new CELT faculty liaison is Tim Powers Sr. His contact information is: tppowerssr@alaska.edu, 796-6341 (or X6341 if you are on any UAS campus).

CELT upcoming activities are listed at: www.uas.alaska.edu/celt/. Currently the list includes:

- Friday 12 pm on 9/21/18: Teaching Squares

- Tuesday on 9/25/18: Tech Tuesday: Collaborate Ultra
- Thursday 12 pm on 9/27/18: Takeaways from 2018 Distance Teaching and Learning
- Friday 12 pm on 10/5/18: Accessibility Workshop
  - Follow-up workshops: Creating Accessible Documents/PDFs, Closed Captioning Videos
- Friday on 10/12/18: (TBD): Advising Workshop
- November/December: QM online workshops: Improving Your Online Course, Applying the Quality Matters Rubric

CELT will provide faculty participating in workshops a certificate of attendance for promotion and tenure documentation.

Digital Faculty Fellows: Deadline to apply has been changed to October 19th. Faculty should feel free to contact CELT/IDN if they want advice or assistance with application, arranging a phone conference with this past years Digital Fellows.

Open Education Resources (OER): This is an ongoing project. Contact Jonas Lamb at j.lamb@alaska.edu or 796-6440. UAS, in collaboration with UAA/UAF, are investigating publishing options such as Pressbooks for people who want to create their own OER.

Upcoming Meetings

The upcoming meetings dates on the agenda were incorrect. We are meeting on Thursdays this academic year so the correct dates are October 18th, November 15th, and January 17th.