

SUMMARY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING PORTFOLIO

DATE: December 5, 2017

TIME: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Marriott Library, MLIB 5201

IN ATTENDANCE:

Martha Bradley Randy Dryer Harish Maringanti Patrick Panos
Cory Stokes Jon Thomas

COMMITTEE SUPPORT: Paul Burrows, Emily Rushton

UNABLE TO ATTEND:

Zach Berger Peter Jensen Nancy Lombardo Eric Poitras
Fernando Rubio Ryan Steele Patrick Tripeny

AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Software2 presentation
- Learning Spaces overview
- Yellowdig demo
- Yellowdig discussion
- Review the Student-Centered Classroom Committee Charter
- Update on items coming out of SITC during the last month

Software2 presentation

Harish Maringanti, associate dean for IT and Digital Library Services at the Marriott Library, gave a presentation on the library's usage of Software2, an application virtualization tool, for the past 19 months. He discussed the issues the U currently faces in terms of delivering software applications to all students on their devices, the challenge in managing that, and how Software2 could potentially provide a solution to that challenge. Maringanti then facilitated a discussion with the committee on broadening the scope of using Software2 at the U. The discussion covered topics such as how to secure funding, the challenge of making students aware of what software is available to them, and the advantages of implementing a tool such as Software2. One member pointed out that it would be beneficial to survey the U students in the library who have been using the current implementation of Software2. Ultimately, it was motioned that this idea be taken to both the Architecture and New Technology Committee and the Strategic Information Technology Committee for review and approval to move forward with expanding Software2 beyond just the Marriott Library. The motion was approved.

Learning Spaces overview

Paul Burrows, TLT information architect, gave a brief update on the Learning Spaces/student computing fees process for 2018 and explained that notifications have already gone out to each of the

confirmed applicants who intend to apply for funding in 2018. The task force has also been formed. Burrows reminded the committee of the hard deadline of March 15.

Yellowdig demo and discussion

Preston Tanner, instructor for Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, gave a demonstration for Yellowdig, a social learning tool and plug-in for Canvas. Yellowdig allows students and instructors to share and comment on content, as well as “like” posts. Features include a news feed, community, and file sharing.

Jon Thomas, TLT director, explained that Yellowdig usage at the U has increased during the last few years – but unfortunately, while it used to be a free tool, Yellowdig is now going to start charging. The committee discussed the implications of this, and the challenge of balancing the need to protect student info in plug-in tools for Canvas, as well as protect academic freedom. The committee also discussed how plug-in tools like this are added to Canvas, and the need for a better process so that random free tools do not continue to get added (only to suddenly start charging for use of the tool a year or two down the road). Ultimately, the committee did not come to a decision on the best way to handle the Yellowdig issue (and the broader issue of managing the free tools that instructors use with Canvas). The committee will revisit this topic next month.

Review the Student-Centered Classroom Committee Charter

The committee briefly reviewed and discussed the new student-centered classroom committee charter (previously discussed in prior portfolio meetings). One member had a few suggestions to the document, which the committee discussed and agreed upon. The committee also discussed responsibilities of the committee, including collaborating with University Scheduling, creating a set of recommendations for what types of classes can be scheduled in student-centered classrooms, and establishing an expected timeframe for completion.

Update on items coming out of SITC during the last month

Cory Stokes, UOnline Director and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies, facilitated a discussion on software procurement and how that topic was covered in the SITC meeting on November 28, 2017. At that meeting, Stokes walked through the proposed model of how to procure institutional-level software at the U, which begins with identifying the purpose (with procurement being one of the last steps). SITC agreed that this was a good model and recommended socializing this idea more around campus, beginning with the council of academic deans. One member suggested taking this idea to the executive committee for the academic senate as an information-only item, and there was general agreement around the room on this.

Thomas also brought up the challenge with being unable to use DMail for mass communications, and how that topic was discussed in SITC. The policy on sending DMail is to get VP approval, and that approval will typically only be given for emergency and/or presidential messages. Stokes then recommended moving away from email and focusing more on a mobile strategy for campus, and the committee discussed some ideas surrounding this. Stokes said the Integrated Student Team (IST) has been discussing this and came up with some recommendations. The committee agreed those recommendations should be taken to the working group that was created in SITC for this purpose.