

**SUMMARY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING PORTFOLIO MEETING**

**DATE: September 16, 2015**

**TIME: 1:30-3 p.m.**

**LOCATION: Milton Bennion Hall, Rooms 212 and 201**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Martha Bradley	Kirsten Butcher	Anthony Fratto	Stephen Hess
Patrick Panos	Fernando Rubio	Wayne Samuelson	Catherine Soehner
Jon Thomas	Patrick Tripeny		

**COMMITTEE SUPPORT:** Paul Burrows, Scott Sherman

**UNABLE TO ATTEND:**

Rick Ash	Jordan Gerton	Linda Ralston	Jean Shipman
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**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jeff Folsom, Eccles Health Sciences Library  
Nancy Lombardo, Eccles Health Sciences Library  
Brett Puzey, Teaching & Learning Technologies  
Adam Stewart, Teaching & Learning Technologies  
Cory Stokes, UOnline

**AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED:**

- Demonstration of Milton Bennion Hall experimental teaching room
- Discussion on accessibility issues and technology
- Governance update

**Demonstration of Milton Bennion Hall experimental teaching room**

Milton Bennion Hall Room 212 is an experimental room paid for by Teaching and Learning Technologies to test new equipment and teaching methods in real-life settings. Faculty may reserve the room for classes, and its proximity to the TLT offices in the building allow for troubleshooting to happen quickly. Adam Stewart and Brett Puzey demonstrated the features of the room, which is an open classroom with four pods with six chairs each. Each pod has a television monitor nearby that can be controlled individually or as part of the main classroom feed. This allows instructors to show the same material to multiple groups, for the group to control its own display, and for groups to share their work with others around the room on those groups' screens. TLT paid for the technology by saving fees collected from A/V installations in non-classroom settings, such as conference rooms, and through donations. The displays are upgraded from the typical general classroom installation, but the core of the system is the standard A/V stack installed in many 60-person general use classrooms.

The screens are touch-capacitive and also have a whiteboard function. The contents of the whiteboard can be emailed directly from the monitor, as well. A document projector with exceptional zoom adds another dimension of instruction, and soon-to-be-added features include wireless AirMedia

functionality and a codec for traditional video conferencing and tracking of the instructor. The room is scheduled through the central scheduling service, and demand is heavy, with several requestors being turned away because there was no more availability.

### **Discussion on accessibility issues and technology**

Scott McAward, director for the Center for Disability Services and interim Vice President for Student Affairs, spoke about the challenges and responsibilities the University faces with regard to providing equal access to students with disabilities. He noted his expertise is in helping these students, not in the strict legal requirements in play, but that several recent court cases have put added emphasis on the need to make all materials available to every student. McAward's office works with more than 1,500 students registered as having a disability, an increase of 50 percent in the past five years. Many of those students don't have a visible disability, but rather one that is not immediately obvious. While the Center for Disability Services helps the University meet its obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, the amount of material and work required to be completely compliant is far greater than the resources available to the center. So McAward takes every opportunity to partner with others and spread the message of inclusive teaching and learning techniques and technology. For instance, closed captioning in instructional videos and text-to-speech functionality for blind or dyslexic students are typical accommodations, but they're also just good design for all learners. As a bonus, things like closed captioning also make videos searchable in ways they otherwise would not be, further adding value to the material.

### **Governance update**

Chief Information Officer Stephen Hess updated the group on the progress of a shift in the IT governance model. The University is working with Deloitte consulting on a holistic IT study, and governance is part of that. He believes the Teaching and Learning Portfolio group will continue to play a role in IT governance. He expects major decisions to come from a Strategic IT Committee, and to put in place an Architecture committee to review issues related to the network and cross-functional design. Further updates will come as the model is finalized.