The University of Vermont
FACULTY SENATE

Educational & Research Technologies Committee
Minutes
427a Waterman
February 6, 2019

Present: Nick Bouffard (SGA), Hung Do (BSAD), Deb Ellis (CAS), Lutz Kaelber (CAS), Cathy Paris (Faculty Senate President), Jane Petrillo (CALS), Helen Read (CEMS), Lyman Ross (LIB), Regina Toolin (CESS)

Absent: Elise Hotaling (LCOM), Kayla Johnson (GSS), Tim Lee (LCOM), Tim Tourville (CNHS), Brian Voight (RSENR)

Guests: Simeon Ananou (CIO), Mike Austin (ETS), Wendy Berenback (CTL), Veronika Carter (Registrar) Thomas Chittenden (FS President Elect), Andrew Horvat (ETS), Hope Greenberg (CTL), Christie Silkotch (LIB)

Regina Toolin called the meeting to order at 8:32 am in Waterman 427a.

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of the January 16, 2019 were approved as written.

2. **CIO Update, Simeon Anaou.**

Framing the 2020 Vision for the Use of Information Technology to Advance the Mission of UVM 2019-2022

By: Simeon Ananou
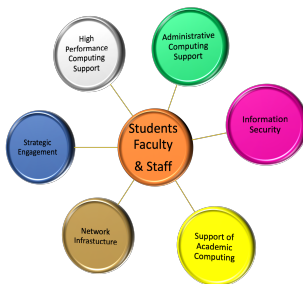Chief Information Officer

ERTC Meeting

February 6, 2018

The University of Vermont

1

1. Help develop the Teaching & Learning Environment of the Future

2. Support Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

3. Support and Improve Administrative Processes

4. Promote Information Security and Protection of Digital Assets

5. Improve Operational Efficiencies

6. Enable the Oneness of IT at UVM

Strategic Imperatives

3

We exist to provide and protect a wide array of information technology services that enable teaching, learning, research and innovation at UVM

High Performance Computing Support

Administrative Computing Support

Information Security

Students Faculty & Staff

Strategic Engagement

Network Infrastructure

Support of Academic Computing
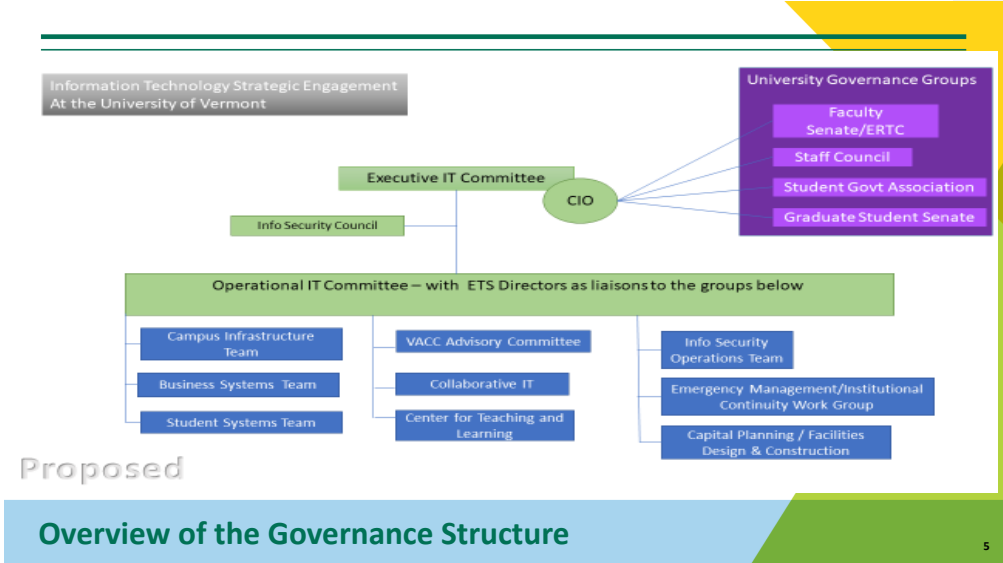
Brief Overview of Enterprise Technology Services

- Create governance and partnerships

- Grow our talents and build a stronger team

- Use technology to enable, transform and innovate

Enable the Oneness of IT at UVM

4

3. **IT Goverance, Simeon Anaou.** The ERTC will have represention in IT Goverance at the University of Vermont. Currently Helen Read is representing the ERTC on the Info Security Council. Regina Toolin is the ERTC representative to the Executive IT Committee. Both the Executive and Info Security Council have meet and are moving forward. The structure of the Operational IT Committee is being refined to a place where it will be most productive, Lyman Ross was put forward to serve on this committee from the ERTC.

4. **Data Management, Christie Silkotch.**

Christie Silkotch

- Science and Data Librarian
- New position, hired July 2017

- **Liaison areas**: Animal Science, Biology, Chemistry, Food Systems, Geology, Nutrition & Food Science, Physics, Plant & Soil Science, Plant Biology, Zoology, Extension

- **Data**: ? 25%?

What Do We Mean By Data Management?

Data management refers to the **storage**, **access**, and **preservation** of research data.

Data management practices cover the **entire lifecycle** of the data, from planning the investigation to conducting it, and from backing up data as it is created and used to long term preservation of data deliverables after the research investigation has concluded.
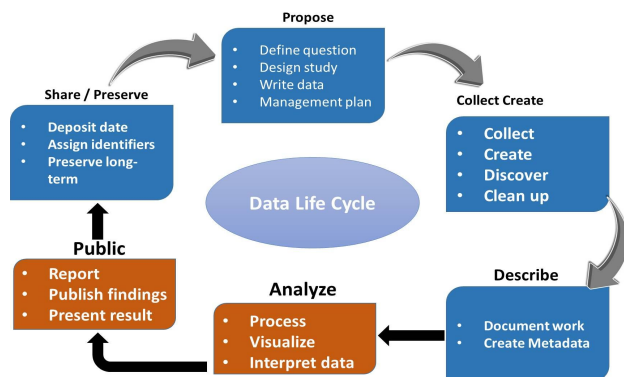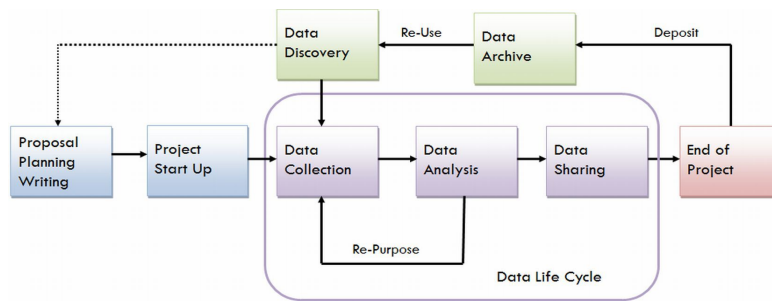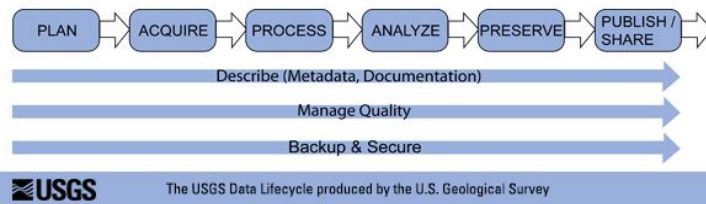
Propose
- Define question
- Design study
- Write data
- Management plan

Share / Preserve
- Deposit date
- Assign identifiers
- Preserve long-term

Data Life Cycle

Collect Create
- Collect
- Create
- Discover
- Clean up

Public
- Report
- Publish findings
- Present result

Analyze
- Process
- Visualize
- Interpret data

Describe
- Document work
- Create Metadata

Image: ITTStar

Data Life Cycle

Data Life Cycle

Where Are Libraries Often Involved?

- **Data management plans**: assisting with writing plans and identifying resources for annotating, storing, and sharing research data
- **Records management**: naming conventions, file versioning, general good information practices
- **Metadata**: identifying discipline and general metadata standards
- **Retention and long-term planning**: interpreting funder requirements, identifying repositories, DOIs + discoverability
- **Other**: How to cite data, how to locate and purchase data sets, teaching students about data management, copyright and license info, citation/data impact

February 2017 B.C. (Before Christie)

- Faculty Senate: UVM Research Data Management Resolution
  - Researchers in all disciplines are faced with a range of data management needs...
  - Data management requires a long-term commitment to a storage environment...
  - Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) has directed federal agencies to mandate that digitally formatted research data [...] should be stored and publicly accessible... (2013, earlier for individual agencies)
  - Most large federal funding agencies [...] now require data management plans...
  - Current practices at UVM [...] do not meet user needs...
  - An institutional commitment to providing technical expertise and support services is required...
- Supported the appointment of a joint Administration/Faculty Senate committee

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March 2017 B.C. (Before Christie)

- Administration approved the Faculty Senate resolution and appointed the **Ad Hoc Data Management Committee**, charged with:
  - Review a recent analysis of data management plans and data management practices on campus.
  - Conduct a thorough examination of data management plans in place in select peer and comparator institutions; identify common elements; broadly describe different approaches and their strengths and weaknesses.
  - Develop standard (and, where appropriate, agency specific) UVM data management plan language for use by faculty members in the submission of grant applications requiring DMP statements.

October 2017

Ad Hoc Data Management Committee submits report to the Provost, with the following recommendations:

1. Become a partner institution of the DMPTool
2. Create a research data support team led by reps from ETS, the Libraries, and Sponsored Programs, with faculty advisors from across the University
3. Assess further faculty data management needs in relation to DMPs and data storage, preservation, and sharing
4. Review current UVM policies related to research data and identify and fill any policy gaps

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Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

While getting oriented to UVM and settling into my role, sought out meetings and conversations across campus:

- UVM Enterprise Technology Services (ETS)
- College of Medicine Technology Services
- Office of the Vice President of Research (OVPR)
- Research Administration & Integrity
- Sponsored Projects Administration (SPA)
- Research Protection Office (RPO)
- Office of Clinical Trials Research, College of Medicine
- UVM Foundation

March 2018

OVPR and the Provost respond to the committee's recommendations, and prioritized before hiring of a new CIO:

1. Educate faculty about research data management and better communicate existing institutional support, including that data management costs can be covered by grants (OVPR)
2. Library commissioned at the lead unit to assist UVM's investigators in developing research data management plans (CS)
3. Become a DMPTool partner institution (Library + later ETS)
4. Faculty survey about data management needs (Library)

March 2018 (cont.)

After the CIO's arrival:

1. Extend the work of the committee in a collaborative effort with the Library, OVPR, and faculty representatives to craft a UVM Data Management Policy and University Operating Procedures to cover all aspects of the data management pipeline
2. Concrete policy and procedures

Since March 2018

- DMPTool partner institution (admins = CS and Mike Austin of ETS)

- August: Invited and applied, but not accepted, for *APLU/AAU Workshop on Accelerating Public Access to Research Data*
  - Provost (David Rosowsky), VPR (Richard Galbraith), CIO (Simeon Ananou), and VP and General Counsel (Sharon Reich Paulsen) participated in this application

- Updated UVM's Data Management Guide (revised, added new UVM resources tab)

- Started reviewing my predecessor's surveys and articles about UVM needs, preparing to conduct another campus study (maybe IRDL)

Current Status

- Been in a bit of a holding pattern waiting for CIO's hire and settling in

- Upcoming meeting with Simeon Ananou, CIO: Thursday, November 15

- Upcoming meeting with Mike Austin, Director of Systems Administration, about promoting DMPTool and campus conversation: November 28

- IRDL Application due in January, lots of reading after the semester

- Hosting New England Research Data Management Roundtable in July 2019

Challenges

- **Administrative pace**: Aforementioned holding pattern
- **Broad and fuzzy definition of data**: People think anything "data" is relevant: storage, big data, statistical analysis...
- **Working top down**: Minimal requests on the ground, difficult to pinpoint specific, tangible needs
- **Scale and scope**: How assess an entire campus with so many disciplinary needs? Previous surveys are not generalizable
- **Learning curve**: Professional development on the fly

Thank You!

Questions? Comments?

Christie Silkotch
Science and Data Librarian
Howe Library, Room 122B
christie.silkotch@uvm.edu
(802) 656-8130

This is an ongoing project, as there are updates they will continue to be shared with the ERTC.

5. **Bb Ally, Wendy Berenback & Hope Greenberg.**

Blackboard at UVM ALLY

What does it check?

- PDF files
- Microsoft® Word files
- Microsoft® PowerPoint® files
- OpenOffice/LibreOffice files
- Uploaded HTML files
- Inst. Report only: WYSIWYG editor text

Blackboard at UVM ALLY

What does it look like?

Bb Ally Sample 2

Attached Files:
- bb-ally-sample-styled-tagged-pdf-from-word-document.pdf (340.129 KB)
- bb-ally-sample-word-document.pdf (426.419 KB)
- bb-ally-sample-styled-word-document.docx (110.778 KB)
- bb-ally-sample-word-document.docx (110.116 KB)

Students will not see the gauges.

Blackboard at UVM ALLY

What happens next?

Accessibility score for:
Plato_Presentation.pptx

32%   All issues ⓘ

This presentation contains images that are missing an alternative description

What this means

How to add descriptions

Checklist

Blackboard at UVM ALLY

What about students?

Alternative formats in varying qualities will be available to students regardless.

Download alternative formats ▾

- OCRed PDF
  Automatically extracted text for improved reading and searching
- HTML
  For viewing in the browser and on mobile devices
- ePub
  For reading as an e-book on an iPad and other e-book readers
- Electronic braille
  BRF version for consumption on electronic braille displays
- Audio
  MP3 version for listening
- Translated version
  A machine translated version of the original document

What about institutionally?

Ally provides reports to analyze materials per course, academic year, accessibility issue, file type, etc.

Blackboard at UVM

Without Ally: 25%

68% With Ally

The Timeline

- Now installed on staging.uvm.edu
- Early adopters invited to test (Feb)
- Materials and promotion (March)
- Training opportunities (April)
- Planned go-live date: May 15

Blackboard at UVM

CTL Support

- CTL Staff: Open hours, Footprints
- Series of workshops
- Website and blog
- Ally website

Blackboard at UVM

How can you help?

- Spread the word
- Invite and encourage early adopters
- Help faculty understand the importance
- Come to demo: Friday, 2/8, 11:30 – Howe 303
- Questions: hope.greenberg@uvm.edu

Blackboard at UVM

6. **ERTC Chair 2019-2020.** Regina will be on sabbatical for the 2019/2020 accedemic year. If anyone is interested in information on being the ERTC chair please contact Regina or the Faculty Senate Office. Elections will happen this spring.

7. **ERTC Meeting Pattern and the May 8th Meeting**. The SAC meeting for May will stay on May 8th. The pattern for meetings for 2019/2020 will continue to be the second Wednesday of the month when possible.

Deleted: Tuesday

8. **Old Business.** There was no new business at this time.

9. **New Business.**

   - Classroom environment and how faculty can be involved in the process? There are a limited number of high tech classrooms. CTL, ETS and and ERTC will gather to do some fact finding.
   - The student perspective is that faculty don't have a great knowledge of how classroom technology works, is there training that faculty could get.
   - SGA has concerns on the use of blackboard. Not all faculty use it on the same level.
   - Deb, Jane, Helen, Nick and Regina would all be interested in a ERTC subcommittee around classroom technology and setup.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am. The next meeting of the ERTC will take place in 427a Waterman on March 6, 2019 from 8:30 am -10:00 am.