



FACULTY SENATE

Educational & Research Technologies Committee
Minutes
Microsoft Teams
December 9, 2020

Present: Thomas Chittenden (Faculty Senate), Luben Dimov (RSENR), Hung Do (BSAD), Deb Ellis (CAS), Steve Kostell (CALs), Helen Read (CEMS), Lyman Ross (LIB), Jennifer Stratton (CESS), Tim Tourville (CNHS), Bob Wildin (LCOM), Marie Wood (LCOM)

Absent: Vacant (SGA), Vacant (GSS), John Yin (CAS)

Guests: Mike Austin, Veronika Carter, John Paul Gorgan, Andrew Horvat, Alex Messinger, Alex Yin

Co-Chair Helen Read called the meeting to order at 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams.

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of October 14, 2020 were approved as written.
2. **Registrar Update, Veronika Carter.**
 - a. **The UVM Course Search Tool.** The new search tool is a product offered by LeapFrog Technologies. You can access this tool by going to the website at <https://soc.uvm.edu>. Currently you can only search the current semester. You can search by subject, college, keyword and instructor. You can also use an advanced search including credit hours, part of term, credit hours, instructional method, general education requirements, teaching modalities and service learning. The committee suggested a drop down for class seat availability. This is something the platform does not currently support but the Registrar's Office is working on including this. There have been a couple small issues but overall it is a user friendly and people are appreciative of the new tool.
 - b. **COVID-19 Support.** The Registrar's Office is still working on supporting the COVID-19 response on campus. This has put other initiatives on hold for the time being, Veronika will continue to update the committee as projects go back online such as MY UVM and Self Service Banner updates (waitlisting).
 - c. **Grading.** A way to have grades pulled in directly from Blackboard. The Registrar's Office does have this on their radar and would also like to see this update happen.
 - d. **Long Term Advising Tools.** A way for students to look up courses that are offered in the future. There are advising tools, however since things change this does not always offer the most accurate information. This would be a good conversation to have with the new VP of enrollment management.
3. **Remote Learning Survey, Alex Yin.**

Students Experience with Remote Instruction During Covid-19

Office of Institutional Research

Colleen Fairchild
Alexander Yin

June 19, 2020



The University of Vermont

Demographics

The survey received a total of **1,127** responses. There was an overall **11%** response rate of students who were enrolled in the spring 2020 semester. The response rate between class years was about even (291 first-year, 272 sophomore, 251 junior, 270 senior, and 43 other/no response).

Covid-19 Survey Response Rates by College for the Spring 2020 Semester									
	CALS	CAS	GSB	CESS	CEMS	RSENR	CNHS	Blank	Total
Total Survey Responses	193	357	84	88	143	98	126	38	1,127
Total UG Enrolled 202001	1,374	4,169	827	679	1,359	730	949	N/A	10,087
Response Rate	14%	9%	10%	13%	11%	13%	13%	N/A	11%

General Reminder

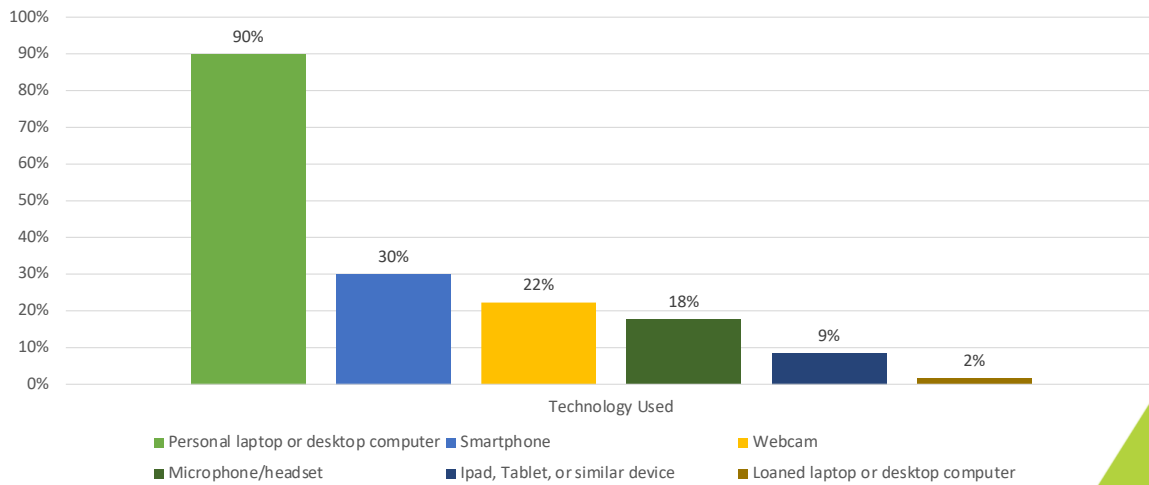
These are the voices of the students



..... But it is only one side of the story

3

What technology did you use to access remote instruction?



4

Some students did not feel they learned as much in an online format

My professors all did a great job switching to remote learning. That being said, I learned significantly less with the switch.

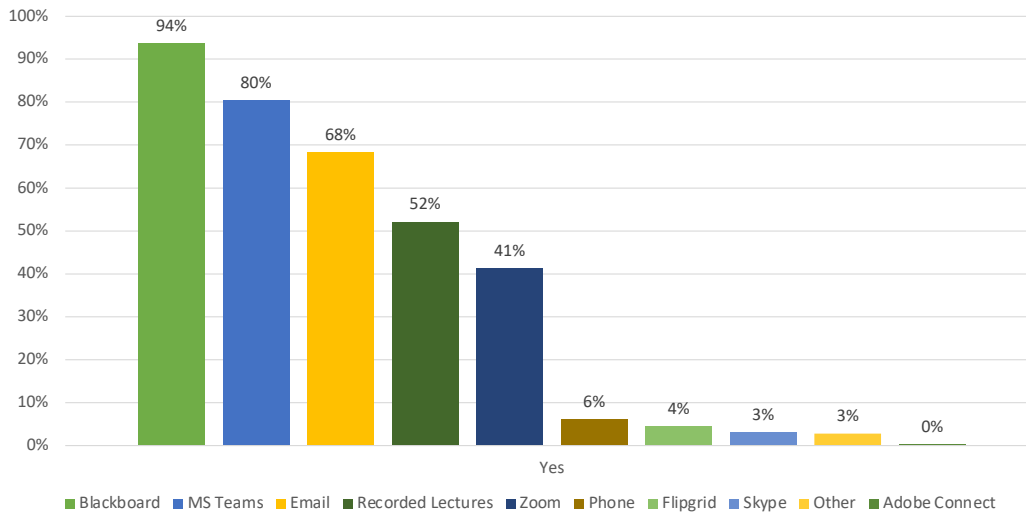
Many of my redesigned assignments did not meet the quality of learning I would have gained through in person instruction. My professors all did a great job switching to remote learning. That being said, I learned significantly less with the switch.

Many of my redesigned assignments did not meet the quality of learning I would have gained through in person instruction

5



Tools used by instructors to conduct remote instruction



6

Students wished more consistency with software platforms among professors

This was very challenging to have so many different platforms for course material to be accessed on. Some professors would email with a to-do list for the week while others would make daily posts on Blackboard. It was difficult to remember which classes used which platform and where to find materials. I am an organized student and I found this jumble of platforms challenging and hindered my online experience rather than helped it.

One failure of this system is that it spread materials out too much. Some teachers utilized several platforms or would switch from one to another. This made communication harder because information was so spread out among several platforms. My belief is that the university could have done more / had a better plan of attack.

7



No magic bullet with regards to technology

Teams was terrible and would cut out some professors or other students. Zoom worked the best (in my opinion)

Zoom is the devil incarnate.

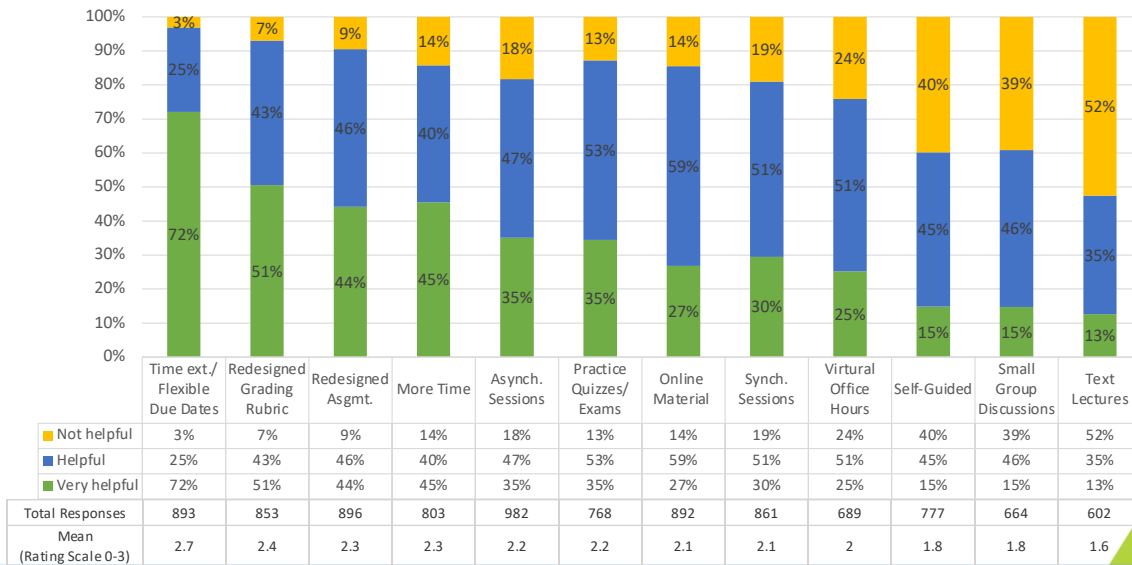
Teams is ok. But reliance on real-time delivery of instruction seemed inefficient for online ed; better online programs rely on non-simultaneous delivery, which provides for better discussion etc.

Other than creating "teams and setting up those specific team meetings with ease, Microsoft Teams is inferior to Zoom in every way

8



What instructional resources and changes made to the class by your instructor did you find helpful to your learning?



9

- 4. Remote Learning Impact of Student Health, John Paul Grogan.** The work of Living Well has shifted as the result of the pandemic. They are relying heavily on telehealth. Some of the key challenges they have had include
- Navigating to virtual care
 - How they are bridging care with students and their local providers
 - What can be provided for students and what cannot be

Those who want this service may not love the format but it is not stopping them from using it, cancellations and no shows are down 45%. Students are also choosing to continue services with providers in their hometowns as it is virtual and that is helping keep the work load manageable. There has been some additional staffing increases in counseling and nursing. They continue to try to fill these spots but it is difficult in the current market. These positions are temporary positions.

5. New Business / Old Business.

- Marie would like an update on the campus restructuring efforts.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.

The next meeting of the ERTC will take place on January 13th at 9:00am on Microsoft Teams.