



The University of Vermont
FACULTY SENATE

Educational & Research Technologies Committee
Minutes
Microsoft Teams
May 4, 2020

Present: Thomas Chittenden (Faculty Senate President), Luben Dimov (RSENR), Hung Do (BSAD), Deb Ellis (CAS), Lutz Kaelber (CAS), Jane Petrillo (CALs), Helen Read (CEMS), Lyman Ross (LIB), Regina Toolin (CESS), Tim Tourville (CNHS), Marie Wood (LCOM)

Absent: Nick Bouffard (SGA), Elise Hotaling (LCOM), Scott Vanson (GSS)

Guests: Mike Austin, Veronika Carter, J. Dickinson, Alex Messinger

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

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of April 2020 were approved as written.
2. **Committee Membership 20/21.** Helen Read was nominated to serve a chair of the ERTC. She is unable to attend Faculty Senate Executive meetings and Faculty Senate Meetings, therefore she is looking for someone to serve with her as a co-chair. Both Deb Ellis and Marie Wood were interested and will e-mail the Faculty Senate Office if they are able to serve.
3. **Remote Learning Survey.** The decision was made to delay sending the remote Learning survey out to students. At this time students are getting a lot of information pushed out to them and are overwhelmed. There is a trend showing that course evaluations are way lower than they generally are and they want to get good data on remote learning. Students were not good about responding to surveys prior to COVID-19 so they are hoping by waiting they will get a better response.
4. **ERTC 20/21 Priorities.**
 - a. **Course Waitlist Tracker.** Currently there is no easy way to track how many students are interested in a course through the waitlist process. The new upgrade to Banner will allow for this function. An update by the Registrar should be added the agenda for early fall.
 - b. **Expanded Course Descriptions.** Will the new Banner update be more accessible? Veronika could address this at a fall meeting.
 - c. **Testing spaces that allow for social distancing.** It is important to provide a physical space where social distancing can occur that will be used for testing. This may be an issue that is worked out over the summer, the issue should be passed directly on to Gary Derr.

- d. **Equal access to technology and resources during distance learning.** Invite Simeon to a meeting in the fall to discuss the new UVM laptop requirement. Bringing students back to campus in the fall even if they are using multiple methods will help with equal access.
- e. **Classroom / education space. How will social distancing look within the classroom?** Is there a way to rotate live stream lectures with in person lectures? Invite Simeon to talk about how classrooms are set up to assist in these issues in the fall.
- f. **Yellowdig Update.** ERTC would like an update and to revisit this topic in the fall.

5. Remote Learning Update.

- a. **What appears to be working well for faculty in the transition to remote teaching.**
 - i. Teams works nicely, the roll out of this product was perfect timing.
 - ii. Recorded sessions in Teams is very helpful.
 - iii. Teams is a great platform for meetings.
 - iv. CTL has been amazing providing support.
 - v. The Facebook page has been very helpful for peer to peer support.
 - vi. Easier access to people, don't have to physically go anywhere to meet with students.
- b. **What major challenges are faculty encountering in the transition to remote teaching?**
 - i. CHNS is experiencing that Zoom is preferred over Teams. That you have more access to seeing people on Zoom.
 - ii. Access and cost of software and creative suites.
 - iii. Some software does not play well with Teams.
 - iv. Connectivity and internet access.
 - v. Academic integrity, lock down tools, testing and quizzes.
 - vi. Clinical and lab skills are hard to teach remotely.
 - vii. Student engagement, limits class discussions.
 - viii. Internship and practicums
 - ix. Learning curve, and faculty who have not previously used these tools.
- c. **What kinds of resources do faculty still need to improve their capacity to teach remotely.**
 - i. More info on downloading and using Teams.
 - ii. First weeks after spring break were really challenging but it got better as faculty and students settled in.
 - iii. Some standardized information to be included in syllabi on downloading and accessing Teams could be helpful for future courses.
 - iv. A library of video tutorials for students on how to use blackboard included as part of new student orientation.
 - v. LinkedIn Learning is a helpful professional development tool. It's a great way to sharpen skills in very discrete topic areas, make sure it is available.

6. New Business / Old Business. There was no new / old business at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.