



FACULTY SENATE

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

Present: Thomas Chittenden (Faculty Senate), Luben Dimov (RSENr), Hung Do (BSAD), Deb Ellis (CAS), Jane Petrillo (CALs), Helen Read (CEMS), Lyman Ross (LIB), Jennifer Stratton (CESS), Tim Tourville (CNHS), Robert Wildin (LCOM), Marie Wood (LCOM), John Yin (CAS)

Absent: Vacant (SGA), Vacant (GSS)

Guests: Mike Austin, Simeon Ananou, Wendy Berenback, Alex Messinger

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

1. Introductions.

Regina Toolin/ Jennifer Stratton	CESS	2020-2023
Robert Wildin	LCOM	2020-2023
Deb Ellis	CAS	2018-2021
John Yin	CAS	2020-2023
Marie Wood	LCOM	2019-2022
Tim Tourville	CNHS	2018-2021
Helen Read	CEMS	2019-2022
Hung Do	BSAD	2018-2021
Lyman Ross	LIB	2019-2022
Steve Kostell / Jane Petrillo	CALS	2020-2023
Luben Dimov	RSENr	2019-2022
Pending	GSS REP	2020-2021
Pending	SGA REP	2020-2021

2. Minutes. The minutes of May 2020 were approved as written.

3. Updates from Mike Austin and Simeon Ananou.

- a. Classroom PC's now require a password, this gives better access to UVM resources including Teams. Classrooms have been updated with new equipment to help with the hybrid model of

teaching. Training and documentation ([UVM knowledge base](#)) has been available for faculty to learn how to use the new equipment.

- b. Cisco (phone) and Teams (video conferencing) were decided as the UVM platform before the pandemic hit.
- c. Updating classroom software, go to <https://www.uvm.edu/it/kb> click on Classrooms and fill out the request.
- d. ETS has increased support on campus. How can the ERTC help promote this increased support?
- e. Digital Backpacks, gives students the technological resources they need to be productive and goes with the user regardless of location.
- f. Technology for internships, how can remote supervision be achieved with technology?
- g. Classroom camera placement was placed strategically to avoid privacy issues for students.
- h. How can the ERTC help ETS to make it easier in the time of COVID-19?
- i. Calls for technical support have doubled and on some occasions, tripled.
- j. Since March CTL has hosted around 160 sessions, they have had over 1600 registrations in those events, the last couple weeks have mostly focused on Teams.

Policy for the use of Teams as the supported video conferencing / collaboration tool. The commitment for consistency to the university community resulted in Microsoft Teams being the platform the university selected. The use of multiple tools would cause chaos. LCOM has a relationship with the medical center and that partnership has to be honored, therefore because of this partnership LCOM is still allowed to use ZOOM.

4. **New Features of Teams compared to Zoom.** Some faculty prefer Zoom over Teams and are not happy they are no longer allowed to use it. Zoom has certain features that are very specific for teaching certain disciplines. UVM has been working hard with Microsoft executives to get these same features added to Teams and many new features have already been added. UVM is currently beta testing other new functions, including breakout rooms. Additionally, ETS worked over the summer to implement automatic Team creation for all UVM courses. Team membership automatically syncs with Blackboard course rosters.
5. **Review of Blackboard.** There were ERTC reps on the committee that reviewed Blackboard. The group has completed its work and was about to publish it right as the pandemic hit. The committee concluded it was a good idea to look at other options. With the pandemic it would be hard for faculty to learn one more technology change so they gave decided to stay with Blackboard for the time being.
6. **Qualtrics.** Data collection software that is now available to all faculty, staff and students.
7. **Priorities for the 2020 / 2021 ERTC.**
 - Technology resources and support for faculty teaching in various modalities due to Covid
 - Investigate and try to address technological barriers to research during Covid
 - Digital citizenship
 - Library update
 - Registration process / waitlist / student interest
8. **New Business / Old Business.** There was no new / old business at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.