



FACULTY SENATE

Educational & Research Technologies Committee

Minutes

Microsoft Teams

February 14, 2024

9:00 to 10:30 Teams

Present: Thomas Borchert (Faculty Senate), Meghan Cope (CAS), Hung Do (GSB), Laura Haines (LIB), Helen Read (CEMS), Tim Tourville (CNHS), Delphine Quenet (LCOM)

Absent: Amy Hughes Lansing (CAS), Vacant (RSENr), Suraj Joshi (SGA), Sara Pawlowski (LCOM), Mark Starrett**(CALS), Regina Toolin*(CESS), Vacant (GSS)

Guests: Veronika Carter, Andrew Horvat

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

- 1. Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of the December 2023 meeting will be added to the March agenda for consideration.
- 2. Chair Update.** Chair Read honored fellow ERTC member Jarlath O'Neil-Dunne who passed away unexpectedly with a moment of silence.

On January 6, 2024, the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources and the entire University of Vermont community lost a dear friend and colleague, Jarlath O'Neil-Dunne. He passed away while Nordic skiing with friends in one of his favorite places in Vermont.

Jarlath was known and beloved for his upbeat nature, indomitable spirit, and compassionate leadership. He was a respected teacher, mentor, and researcher who was always eager to collaborate and share his knowledge.

Jarlath's contributions to the university community were countless and far-reaching. He began working in the Spatial Analysis Lab in the Rubenstein School as a graduate student in 2002, and in 2004 he became a Geospatial Analyst. In 2012 he became the Director of the Spatial Analysis Lab, where he built and led a remarkable team. Jarlath held a joint position with USDA Forest Service Research and Development, he was also a Research Assistant Professor in the Rubenstein School and a Gund Institute for Environment Fellow.

Jarlath was nationally known and highly regarded for his work in Geographic Information Systems. His research focused on the application of geospatial technology to a broad range of natural resource-related

issues including disaster response, environmental justice, wildlife habitat mapping, forest decline, community health, and water quality modeling. He co-developed Urban Tree Canopy Assessment protocols with the USDA Forest Service, which have been applied to over 80 cities internationally.

He worked with federal, state, and local agencies to improve the use of drone technology for disaster response and recovery. Jarlath's leadership helped UVM achieve ASSURE Core Member status in 2021 and he partnered with ASSURE to design and implement FEMA-funded training in the use of drone technology for first responders. In 2023 Jarlath's Unoccupied Aircraft Systems (UAS) team played a crucial role in mapping and documenting historic flooding across Vermont.

Jarlath was particularly proud of his mentorship of students. He taught introductory and advanced courses in geospatial technology, and he was committed to providing experiential learning and career development opportunities to students and alumni. The Spatial Analysis Lab's internship program has distributed more than one million dollars in wages to students and alumni over the past decade. In 2023 Jarlath was celebrated for these contributions when he was named UVM Faculty Career Champion.

He was a former officer in the United States Marine Corps where he served in East Africa, the Middle East, and East Asia. He applied this experience to his role as a faculty advisor to UVM's student veterans.

Jarlath was a fixture in the greater Vermont community. He was passionate about bike commuting and would do so in snow, rain, or sun. He was a motivational endurance athlete, an animal lover, and a dedicated father to three. His passion, charisma, and sense of humor will be deeply missed.

3. **MyUVM portal, Veronika Carter.** An announcement of the pilot will go out in the next two weeks. The new goal is to launch this in May, the current system is too much of a security risk. If they need more time, they will need to work with ETS given the security vulnerabilities. Once the pilot is live both systems will be running at the same. The pilot will be available to anyone that has UVM credentials. ERTC members should bring this information back to their colleges to be shared in college meetings. Veronika and Max will come to the March meeting to get ERTC feedback on the pilot.
4. **Electronic Signatures.** The committee discussed these issues with electronic signature.
 - No standards on electronic signatures
 - What needs to be signed on paper and what can be signed electronically.
 - Helen will reach out to Mark about the issues he wanted addressed about electronic signatures.
5. **New Business / Old Business.**
 - **Qualitative Research Software, NVivo.** The need for the extension that allows for collaborative research. The license expires in May, Meghan will work with J. Dickinson to determine who will be the appropriate guest to invite to the March ERTC meeting.
 - **WiFi Issues,** still having significant issues that are causing teaching issues. Network Services is working on upgrading wireless, please report any issues as close to real time as possible.
 - **E-Mail.** The committee would like to investigate the current policy and discuss at a future meeting.
 - **CIO,** they have come in the past to update committee on things that are happening on campus. There has been no movement on a new CIO, the ERTC would like someone from that office to come to the ERTC for an update.
 - **Information Security,** Helen was on a committee that was supposed to be updating and rewriting this policy and it has fallen silent. Helen will get an update for the committee.
 - **AI**

- How to better use it in the classroom.
- How to detect it being used inappropriately
- Research and AI, [elicit.com](https://www.elicit.com) and [perplexity.com](https://www.perplexity.com).

6. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:01 am.

*sabbatical **teaching

The next meeting of the ERTC will take place on March 6, 2024, from 9:00 to 10:30am on Teams.