Educational Technology Committee
January 30, 2020
Notes (approved 2/27/20)

Name	Location	PR/EX	Name	Location	PR/EX
Jamey Nye (Co-Chair)	DO	PR	Alice Dieli (Co-Chair)	DAS	PR
Pamela Bimbi	ARC-DE	PR	TBD-ARC Faculty	ARC	
TDB – ARC Faculty	ARC		TBD-ARC Faculty	ARC	
Adam Karp	ARC-Adm	EX	TBD-ARC Faculty	ARC	
Kristen Borth	CRC	PR	Jena Trench	CRC	PR
Patrick Crandley	CRC-DE	PR	Paolo Soriano	CRC	PR
TBD-CRC faculty	CRC		Stephen McGloughlin	CRC-Adm	
Zack Dowell	FLC/LRCFT	PR	Jennifer Kraemer	FLC	PR
Caleb Fowler	FLC	PR	Angela Prelip	FLC	PR
TBD-FLC DE	FLC		Matt Wright	FLC-Adm	PR
TBD-SCC faculty	SCC		Kandace Knudson	SCC	PR
P.J. Harris Jenkinson	SCC	PR	Brian Pogue	SCC	PR
Sheley Little	SCC		Kirk Sosa	SCC-Adm	
Tamara Armstrong	DOIT	PR	Mike Day	DOIT	PR
Tammy Montgomery	DO-Amin - NV		Nancy Wallace	Librarian	PR
Marsha Reske	ARC-NV	PR	Guest: Julie Oliver	DAS	PR
Guest: Emilie Mitchell	ARC	PR	Guest: Deborah Saks	SCC	PR

<u>*NV indicates non voting member</u>

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 3:09pm by the co-chairs.

Approval of Notes from December and the Agenda

The notes from the December meeting and the agenda for today's meeting were approved by consensus. The agenda item "Membership" is postponed until next month's meeting.

Discussion Items

Implementation of Gender Pronouns
The ARC Pride Center Director reported on efforts to allow the option for students and staff to select a preferred pronoun in Canvas and other platforms. It was noted that Canvas has added the feature, however, the LMS Coordinators opted to hold off the active implementation until the district group had agreed on the strategy that includes a district-

wide survey, input from faculty at all colleges, prioritization from IT, and plans for professional develop and support for users.

The technical implications were discussed. It was noted that adding this feature to Canvas would not increase the workload for faculty, and it would be optional for students and staff to utilize the feature. At a meeting held earlier, LMS coordinators discussed the option and were in favor or allowing it to be implemented. The impact to other platforms and IT were the determining factors in bringing this topic to Ed Tech to determine where the responsibility for the implications and implementation of this feature and any possible professional developing training that would be required would reside. Feedback regarding the survey to be issued to students regarding their feelings about preferred pronouns was requested by February 8th. The number of projects currently being administered by the IT Department was noted and this would be an additional project to be added to review each district platform (Canvas, Starfish, Peoplesoft, Degree Planner, etc.) and determine the implications of the pronoun option.

Within this discussion, the topic of the role of the LMS coordinators was brought up. The faculty who are members of the LMS Coordinator group (DE Coordinators, Instruction Dev Coordinators, OCDCs and college Canvas admins) meet bi-weekly with the district Canvas team. There is an expectation that the LMS coordinators represent their individual colleges, request information from the college groups as appropriate, and report back to their colleges. LMS Coordinators report is also part of the information sharing to the Ed Tech Committee.

Ally Statement of Support
It was noted that at the last meeting the committee agreed to draft language for a recommendation to be submitted to DAS supporting ALLY being activated in Canvas for all courses. The draft language is as follows:

The Educational Technology Committee continues to discuss implementation plans for Ally. Ally is currently available for instructors an opt-in feature within Canvas. It provides an accessibility status of attached files as well as guidance for remediating accessibility issues. Ally does not fix issues. However, without any intervention on the part of faculty, Ally provides alternative formats of attached files for all users. Alternative formats include Tagged PDF, HTML file, ePub, Electronic Braille, and Audio (mp3). When integrated into Canvas, Ally immediately makes these alternate formats available for users to download. It is important to note that the degree of accessibility within the alternate formats is dependent upon the level of accessibility in the original document.

Therefore, the Educational Technology Committee supports enabling Ally across the board for all LRCCD Canvas courses, as a benefit to students, with the understanding that Ally information cannot be used to penalize instructors in any type of evaluation.

The Educational Technology Committee also recommends that, concurrent with enabling Ally, a communication be sent to instructors with links to resources explaining how to use Ally, what the student view of Ally looks like, and suggestions for explaining how students

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can take advantage of the alternate formats Ally provides.

The DAS representative attending today's meeting noted that an accessibility implementation team will include support of the activation/implementation of Ally. The

It was also noted that the implementation of the Accessibility Plan is separate from the implementation/activation of the features of Ally; the target is to develop a communication plan to inform faculty and staff of Ally's features and what it can and cannot do; and the goal is to turn on Ally beginning with Summer 2020 courses. This will give a jump start to the Accessibility Plan Implementation Workgroup as Ally will automatically provide alternate accessible formats for existing documents.

The DAS representative noted that this topic will be discussed at the next DAS meeting, and it is hoped that by the February 18th meeting, the accessibility implementation team is formed and working on the implementation plan and agreement is reached to turn on Ally. It was suggested that members of the Accessibility Task Force be asked if they would like to continue their work on the Accessibility Plan Implementation Task Force. The list of the members of the Accessibility Task Force will be forwarded to DAS.

Informational Updates

- IT/LMS – 52-53,000 unique students are using Canvas; 31,000 course activities. Proctorio is being discontinued and the district is looking into replacing it as well as NameCoach and Smarter Measure, but funding for replacements will be at a higher cost and there is currently no budget allocated for these purchases. VeriCite, the district's anti-plagiarism software, will also expire on 6/30/20. Turnitin, Simcheck and Unicheck are considerations to replace it. Simcheck and Unicheck lack basic functionality; Turnitin is costly. It was noted that after two years of work, the District is ready to go live with the CVC-OEI membership once the VPI/VPSS determine the optimal time to do this and enrollment concerns regarding waitlist and preferences are eliminated. It was noted that a communication plan needs to be in place before we go live with CVC-OEI.

  It was noted that a recent update may have caused the enrollment/wait list issues and the update may have been formulated and implemented without faculty knowledge or input. It was noted that the updates were discussed at VPI/VPSS but may not have filtered to the campus. This issue occurred before the updates were made, but only if the class was under 90% enrolled. This is another instance where the technical piece is developed, but then the rollout and communication plan need improvement. It was noted that faculty were informed in December of the updates but by that time, the implementation of the udpates was a "done deal," and the faculty were not aware of the implications nor were they involved in the process.

- OCDC – Fast Track & OEI Rubric Academy Report - It was noted that 125 courses have gone through the academy, the majority of which are required for CTE and or

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GE patterns; 24 courses are already aligned. As noted previously the CTE grant funds are being used to hire temporary OCDCs, students and temporary classified staff and a Web & Media Design Specialist has been funded through the end of June.

- Library – Alma system implementation is complete and appears to be working well. It was noted that it includes an auto renewal of books after the first date of return is reached to eliminate the automatic assessment of late book fees. An email is sent to the student notifying them of the renewal and the future date at which time fees will be assessed. However, if the book in question is on reserve for someone else, there is no automatic renewal.

- SCC – 30 Chromebooks were issued to students to help with the digital gap. Their Spring Online Teaching Leadership Academy will start February 10th.   They will employ a CityWayz Program to improve student experience by making a personal connection; using relatable material; and providing clarity and flexibility and communication.

- FLC - an Instructional Design Coordinator is being sought; the CIS program at FLC was recognized as a 10 Ten Program in the state; they received their first OEI course approval and have two more pending.

- CRC – 26 faculty have enrolled in the Online Teaching Institution and they will offer PD opportunities around accessibility and the OEI rubric.

- ARC – they are working on home bases based on area of interest in the program maps; scaling up dual enrollment focus.

Future Agenda Items

Discussion about the future of District Online Planning (formerly Los Rios Online). It was noted that the college presidents and academic senate presidents met about a reboot of this idea and developing a plan that is college driven, includes more faculty input, clear communication and the elimination of the urgency to make this option available to students. This group will meet again next week.

Adjourned at 4:45p.