UAA University Technology Council
Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2018
8:30 am – 10:30 am
SSB 120

Attendance:
Present: Adam Paulick, IT Services; Andrea Miller, IT Services; Dave Dannenberg, Academic Innovations & eLearning; Karen Andrews, Disability Support Services; Ryan Belnap, Prince Willaim Sound Community College; Ian Bushell, Kodiak College; Dave Fitzgerald, Faculty Senate; Susan Mircovich, Kenai Peninsula College; Frank Moore, College of Engineering; Mike Robinson, Consortium Library; Lorelei Sterling, ACDLITE; Kendra Sticka, College of Health; Bob Stott, College of Business & Public Policy; Rieken Venema, College of Arts and Sciences; Katie Walker, College of Education; Vince Yelmene, Mat-Su College

Absent: Mollie Carter, Community & Technical College; Josiah Nash, USUAA

1) Meeting called to order – 8:34 am
2) Review and approval of agenda
   a. Approved
3) Review and approval of minutes
   a. Approved
4) Discussion items
   a. UA IT Review – Adam Paulick
      i. Since the last time we met, the big news is the resignation of Karl Kowalski. Martha Mason, CIO for UAF, is acting CITO.
      ii. President Johnson has asked that no decisions be made for the UA IT Review in the interim. The decision will be left for the new CITO.
      iii. There will be a recruitment to fill the CITO position. There has been a request for feedback on the draft PD.

1. Suggestion was made to rotate the UA Statewide CITO position between the MAUs CIOs.
2. Comment on having accessibility made a consideration in the search.
3. Comment made on not picking a desired outcome of the UA IT review prior to hire of a new CITO. Should pick a desirable outcome, and hire to fill that outcome. A number of people think that by allowing a new CITO to pick the outcome can bring about the same issues we have been dealing with. New CITO may be coming on and needing to downsize their team depending on the decision chosen. We should at least select the structure of our governance prior to hiring a new CITO, and knowing that we can adjust as needed.
iv. President’s goal is to have someone on by the beginning of June.

b. Innovative Technology Solutions Fund – Dave Dannenberg and ITSF Sub-Committee

i. Committee met to award the FY19 cycle proposals.

ii. Question came up for amount to fund, and realized we could not fund next fiscal year without the future committee approval. Subcommittee members recalled that it had been determined to allocate a certain percentage of STF funds towards the ITSF, but no decision was made on the actual percentage.

iii. Decided to award up to $100k, which should be a safe funding limit. Subcommittee was going to select proposals for funding, with additional proposals set aside for potential future funding depending on final budget amount.

iv. Subcommittee elected three proposals for funding in a total amount of $62,964. No addition proposals were selected for potential future funding.

v. A number of proposals were weeded out completely due to previous proposal awards, or large amounts going to faculty salaries.

vi. The subcommittee is adjusting the requirements and rubric to address some of the concerns with some of the denied proposals.

   1. This includes explicit notes about modularizing proposals being acceptable, labor funding, and quality/amount of students impacted.

vii. Movement made to accept subcommittee’s recommendation of funding. Seconded. All attending members voted in favor.

viii. Committee does consider and has awarded partial funding when appropriate.

ix. Discussion concerning award cycle and where funding comes from. Next cycle in FY20 will get funding approval from FY19 UTC to be carried forward to FY20. This allows the subcommittee to know how much funds they have to award. STF funds carried forward are not at risk to being pulled back to the general fund as they are student fees.

x. All subcommittee scoring and proposal documents are posted on the UTC SharePoint and available for UTC members to review.

c. Information Technology Council Updates – Adam Paulick

i. Banner 9 upgrade – concerns about missed deadlines: Ellucian made up on the missed deadlines and Banner 9 upgrade is now back on track.

ii. There was a discussion on prioritization of Banner requests. There was some concerns with the prioritization work, and a discussion to address it. Including work that does not necessarily fit into any of the current swim lanes, or how does anyone know where the front door is for requests. This is the first step into creating visibility into these processes. A subcommittee has been formed to look into this.
iii. Follow up items from an Alliance member on data breach and video conferencing.

d. Video Conference RFI – Adam Paulick

i. RFI is out, and the deadline is April 9. We are currently working with OIT to set up feedback sessions April 19 and 20. Format includes a summary presentation from the project management team on the RFI responses, new technology, and options available, followed by a feedback session. There will be total of six sessions over two days. UAF is also holding listening sessions

ii. After the listening sessions, the feedback will be used when developing an RFP.

iii. Question on if this is just videoconferencing. This is not simply a video conference replacement, but includes new features beyond video conferencing. Hope for integration of room scheduling system, easy call in, and more.

iv. Comment on use of “video” conferencing, which is exclusive. Request for inclusion of a VPAT and potential for captioning and transcription.

v. Linda Baschky from UA OIT is the project manager assigned, and will be coming down with a team from OIT for the listening sessions.

vi. Announcement with specifics will be coming out next week.

e. Bookstore Inclusive Access initiative

i. The Bookstore has entered into contract with VitalSource to pilot electronic books.

1. For the pilot, an instructor can opt to use electronic books through this vendor.

2. All students for the class are enrolled in receiving the books electronically from various vendors through VitalSource. Students are contacted through email to ensure they understand the books are available electronically, and do have the option to opt out. Students must opt out by add/drop deadline. Students who do not opt out receive links to their electronic materials, and the expense is charged to their UAA account.

3. The textbooks are available via blackboard to the student. The e-books may get a 20% discount, and the books are on a “rental” model. This pilot is a six-year contract.

ii. Committee provided feedback and comments on this contract


2. This should be an opt-in model, rather than opt-out. This is fundamentally a different model than what students are currently use to.
3. The Bookstore can raise how much they charge, potentially negating some of the discount.

4. Students are asked/inform when the register about the e-text courses. Questions on if this is actually opt in or opt out.

5. There is a concern about this decision bypassing governance groups, and not including constituent groups in the decision making process. Where is the student, faculty, and DSS input?

6. Other half of this agreement is that UAA has agreed to give Pearson data.

7. Whom do students call when they have a problem with the e-text? Assumption that they would call the help desk. IT has not yet talked about it, and needs to be part of the pilot to see what issues that may arise.

8. When and what is the communication plan? We have not really seen enough communication, or enough avenues for feedback.

9. What criteria was applied in choosing Pearson/VitalSource? Response during an informational meeting was that VitalSource is a vendor/publisher neutral source. Pearson is separate from VitalSource. Still no information on why we agreed to provide Pearson with our data as part of this agreement.

10. People are excited about the idea, but have concerns about the communication and roll out of the project.

11. A lot of this seems to be in line with what the publisher wants, rather than what benefits students. The publisher is running the show.

   iii. Does UTC see how they can contribute to this pilot?

1. Not sure if UTC can do anything at this point. Comment to let the pilot proceed.

2. Comment on the technical help piece – this has always been the role of the publisher/vendor. With this contract, UAA may be taking on a role to provide tech help. This depends on the distribution model and how UAA represents itself.

3. The student population at UAA does not necessarily have the drive to get issues resolved in dealing with the publisher. Our IT help desk needs to be versed in what is going on.

4. Bigger issue for UTC is the lack of shared governance around such a big decision. We may not have enough information at this time to critique. Would like to get more information.
iv. Request for whoever is running the project to present on the Inclusive Access pilot.

v. Faculty Senate will be discussing this at the next meeting.

5) New Business

   a. Interface is coming up to Anchorage on April 12. It is invite only, and Adam can get interested people an invite.

   b. SPSS – IT has been doing a lot of work around SPSS and getting a better agreement. We will be doing a feedback session on April 10. We may have an agreement that would allow us to give students unlimited access, if we are able to keep the same departmental usage. Listening session will be April 10 10:00-11:00a in SSB 120.

      i. Invite was sent to our SPSS user groups, but others are welcome to attend. Please feel free to share.

   c. Joe Fugere of the IT Service Center is putting together a bulk computer purchase. The first deadline is April 13. There will be standard builds available to purchase, and departments can opt in to the bulk purchase and get a discount on equipment. The Call Center (786-4646) will be the main contact for questions on the purchase. Notices are planned for Monday, March 26.

   d. AI&e department is moving forward with an RFP to purchase bulk captioning/transcription. As most units have decided upon Kaltura, we were able to solicit from Kaltura partners. This would mean we would have a single integrated product for captioning. Since we are purchasing in bulk, we would ID faculty who have online coursework that need captioning, but other units would be able to take advantage of the product.

6) Adjourn – 10:33 am

Action Items

   • Adam to request a representative to present on the Inclusive Access pilot to UTC, preferably at the April meeting.

   • Andrea will check to confirm POC for bulk computer order.

Future Meeting Dates:

   • April 27, 2018