Faculty Education Technology Committee (FETC)
2017-2018 Annual Report

Committee membership: Alem Teklu (Chair, Physics and Astronomy), Wendy Cory (secretary, Chemistry and Biochemistry), David Desplaces (Management and Marketing), Douglas Ferguson (Communication; Faculty Coordinator for eLearning and Distance Education), Gabrielle Principe (Psychology), Paul Sanchez (Music), Geoffrey Timms (Marine Resources Library)

Ex-officio: Deana Caveny-Noecker (Associate Provost), Zach Hartje (TLT/Deputy CIO), Mark Staples (CIO & Sr VP for IT)

The committee met regularly to discuss issues associated with education and technology. Highlights of the committee’s discussions and actions follow below.

State of Technology on Campus
Zach Hartje and Mark Staples reported regularly on the state of campus IT and TLT including:

- Planning and implementation of classroom IT upgrades.
- Facilitation of computer upgrades.
- Training and implementation of online courses – distance education (DE).
- The TLT conference that occurred in March 2018
- The OAKS upgrade to version 10.7 that occurred in December 2017.
- The VOIP migration that was completed in Fall 2017.
- Plans to move away from Kaspersky software – new system TBA.
- Results from Fall 2017 Faculty Survey on issues and needs for classes and lab spaces.

Classrooms and Labs
An analysis of classroom upgrade needs and recommendations is expected to begin in summer 2018. After this study, IT will work with departments and academic advisory groups to better understand faculty needs, put together a renovation and refresh schedule for classroom upgrades. A number of classrooms are eligible for upgrades; with budget reductions, the number of renovations per year has gone down from 20 to 10-13 classrooms. A lot of this is shared work between IT and Physical Plant (whose budget was reduced significantly and slowed this process). IT would like to do the utilization study and look at classrooms as tiers, based on the available technology in the room. The
needs of the institution will be used to categorize classrooms, as opposed to a one-size-fits-all approach. (4/12/2018)

Computer Replacements

IT is working to create tiers for replacement. Acquiring new computers in departments needs to be centralized in IT and this is ongoing. (4/12/2018).

Distance Education

Spring DE Readiness course is underway, 32 participants are enrolled, the most ever enrolled. Course has been undergoing overhaul with new staff. Reduced to 7 weeks with 5 modules (from 8/6). Brian McGee has mentioned that he wants more online offerings. 45% of summer courses are online courses, 3.8% enrollment in online courses during academic year. TLT is focusing on getting people trained in order to push this initiative forward. (2/1/2018)

FERPA limits what we can do with OAKS. It would be good to have a discussion about what the future of online interactive learning should be. Discussion boards, links to videos, really incorporate their smart devices into the course learning. (2/1/2018)

TLT conference

TLT March 2018 conference had 25 proposals for faculty-led sessions. Keynote speaker was Randy Bass, VP of Education at Georgetown University. MUSC, Citadel, CSU, and others attended the conference. The conference was successful, bigger than last year with around 100 faculty members participating and participation from other institutions. (11/9/2017, 12/7/2017, 4/12/2018)

Survey of Faculty

The survey of faculty technology issues and needs for classes and lab spaces was conducted in Fall 2017. A report of the findings was written by David Desplaces with input from the committee. The results of the survey indicate that:

- The overall satisfaction of faculty with technology in the classroom/lab/workspace is about 75%.
- The overall satisfaction of faculty with current computer/laptop/stations for daily tasks is also about 75%.

Areas of concern that need improvement include:

- Unique needs such as lab/studio with special equipment needs
- Responsiveness to fixing problems (Help Desk/Technician response)
- Classroom setup (lighting, screen, setup, furniture, location, room assignment)
- Availability of software/operating system in the classroom
- Computer/projector/station hardware

These concerns were discussed by the committee and presented to IT. IT has been working and is working to address these concerns. Below is a summary of classrooms/learning spaces that were outfitted with AV equipment in FY18.

**Capital Projects**

1. RHSC (40 spaces with AV/IT)
   - 29 Labs
   - 2 Conference Rooms (210 & 336)
   - 8 Classrooms (including 102 and 103)
   - 1 Auditorium (101)
2. 14 Green Way
   - 1 Classroom

**Classroom Upgrade Work**

1. Projector Upgrade in 20 classrooms (upcoming in May)
2. SurgeX power conditioner to be integrated in 100 classrooms by August 2018
3. MBYK_200 (full upgrade)
4. SSMB_105 (removed lectern; replaced system)
5. ADDL_127 (created)
6. CATO_119 (do they schedule any classes in SSMB_130H?)
7. HWWE_112: added Apple TV capability
8. 12 BULL 1st floor room: added Apple TV capability
9. 12 BULL 2nd floor rooms: added Zoom
10. Repaired sliding top on lectern in 40-50 classrooms.