Faculty Education Technology Committee (FETC)

2021-2022 Annual Report

Committee membership: Marian Mazzone (Art & Architectural History) Chair, Geoffrey Timms (Marine Resources Library), Secretary, Sarah Hatteberg (Anthropology/Sociology), David Parisi (Communication), Cass Runyon (Geology), Juliette Bourdier (French/Francophone Studies).

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

The committee communicated through Zoom and email to discuss issues associated with education and technology. The main issues were trying to determine how we can best gather and make available to faculty tools & tips for best use (an ongoing discussion), we began the discussion about determining faculty literacy standards in educational technology.

Our fall meeting on Zoom focused on bringing new members up to date on last year’s work on polling faculty, etc. to build an inventory or resource for faculty to find the best (and most suggested) technology tips and tools for teaching quickly and easily. One issue is where/how to host this. Zach Hartje of IT has some suggestions, starting with a SharePoint hub. As we discussed this throughout the year, we considered that CETL might be a place to ‘locate’ the work once it’s completed and there it can be maintained and strengthened. In fact, the committee several times considered exactly where the FETC does or does not overlap with two new initiatives: one is the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, the other is the Distance Education program. We don’t want to overlap or intrude, so future committees may want to discuss and refine what the FETC’s role will be in future.

The spring meeting focused on several concerns brought forward by committee members or sent on to committee members from the faculty. One of these concerned the continuing requirement for all faculty to enroll in DE training. We contacted Sylvia Rodriguez Sabater who sent us a memo explaining how and why that decision was made. We also heard from Deanna Caveny on the issue of how many online courses could be offered by departments and majors/programs. We have also had issues raised by faculty concerning the branding of EXTERNAL on email messages within our system. That issue should be picked up by the committee in the fall when it reconvenes.

The other major issue, faculty literacy standards, was discussed at both meetings and throughout the semester. We had heard that the Library had picked up this topic in the past. Once contacted, the Dean of the Libraries said that it had been largely put aside when COVID struck, and Joey Van Arnhem may be our best contact on the issue in the future in the Library.
The committee for 2022-2023: continuing members David Parisi, Chelsea Reid-Short (Psychology), Juliette Bourdier (French, Francophone & Italian), new members: Can Dalyan (Sociology & Anthropology), DJ Connor (Physics), Walter Persons (Geology), and Mark Pyles (Finance).

Submitted June, 2022.

Marian Mazzone, Chair.