

Academic Technology Committee

MINUTES OF MEETING: 3/03/17

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE: 4/7/17

Submitted Exec. Committee: _____

Approved by Exec. Committee: _____

Submitted Academic Senate: _____

Approved by Academic Senate: _____

ATC Members Present: Chris Sales (Chair), Ardavan Asef-Vaziri, Stefanie Drew, Joel Krantz, Uma Krishnan, Stephen Kutay, Iswari Pandey, Henk Postma; *Excused:* Tara Fahmie, Ashley Geng; *Absent:* Stacey Aguila; Braulio Diaz, Norm Herr; *Executive Secretary:* Hilary Baker; *Recording Secretary:* Celene Valenzuela; *Permanent Guest:* Deone Zell; *Guests:* Jerry Schutte, Janet Oh, Ryan Ben Quillian

ACAT Members Present: Yi Li (Chair), Rick Covington, Pratima Dutta, Wayne Smith, Diane Stephens

Meeting called to order – 1:06 p.m.

- 1. Announcements** – Jerry Schutte stated that there has been a low response rate to the recent sexual assault/sexual misconduct prevention survey, possibly due to a SurveyMonkey survey tool issue. When students complete a portion of the survey intending to return later, SurveyMonkey would not allow these students to re-login to complete the remaining survey portion unless the student re-logs in from a different computer device. Jerry Schutte asked that the committee share this information with students and remind them to complete the survey.

Hilary Baker shared that CSUN owns a campus-wide license with Student Voice survey tool. Uma Krishnan stated that she would like to obtain more information on how she can administer surveys via Student Voice.

- 2. Approval of Minutes** – The minutes from the February 3, 2017 were approved without amendments.
- 3. Previous Action Items** – None.
- 4. Chair Report**
 - a. Teaching and Learning Spaces** – Chris Sales stated that the committee may continue the discussion during the Fall 2017 semester to present a resolution to Faculty Senate focusing on best practices for teaching and learning spaces. He plans to meet with the Department of Academic Resource and Planning to understand what has been done across campus to improve classrooms spaces. The idea is to focus on improving technology in the large number of outdated classroom space.

5. VP/CIO's Report

- a. **Canvas Update** (<http://www.csun.edu/it/canvas>) - Hilary Baker stated that Academic Technology is providing updates on the deployment of Canvas across campus. Both Moodle and Canvas will be available to faculty from now through the end of the calendar year.

Deone Zell shared that faculty have been attending the [Canvas Essentials trainings](#) to start converting their courses from Moodle to Canvas. Training workshops will continue during the summer months. The summer Canvas Essentials trainings will be posted by early April 2017.

Stephen Kutay stated that Oviatt Library can help develop best practices for Canvas to be able to make information and documents searchable in depositories. Stephen Kutay added that he met with Peri Klemm to discuss the work that the Oviatt Library is doing to offer a depository for the Art History department and other departments on campus.

- b. **VARJAM 2017 Update** (<http://www.csun.edu/varjam>) - Hilary Baker shared that the VARJAM kickoff was held earlier in the day from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The competition will last one month, with a showcase and awards ceremony scheduled for Friday, April 7, 2017 at the Oviatt Library, Ferman Presentation Room. All committee members are strongly encouraged to attend.

The [Virtual and Augmented Reality Exploration \(VARx\)](#) session for faculty will also continue this semester. During the sessions, faculty will have stimulating conversations about Virtual and Augmented Reality (VAR) in education and opportunities to use equipment. Deone Zell shared that the a VARx brown bag luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2017 in Oviatt Liberty, Room 33, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The brownbag will focus on classroom space where students and faculty can be in the same location through virtual reality.

VARx is not only about teaching, it is greatly focused on research. Stefanie Drew shared that her Doctoral is in Vision and Psychophysics and studies asthenopia. Currently Oculus Rift, which is a virtual reality system that immerses users inside a virtual world, is being used to treat people suffering from Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, Autism and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. However, there is no literature on the Ocular implications. Students in the Research Methods PSY 321 class are focusing their research on this topic; they plan to conducting tests before and after patients use the Oculus Rift system to find preliminary data that will allow for a comprehensive assessment survey that can be used in the field of optometry.

Hilary Baker added that Jacob Enfield will be providing a summary of the VARx at the upcoming Faculty Showcase scheduled for May 8, 2017 at the Oviatt Library, Ferman Presentation Room from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

- c. **Portfolium "myCSUNstory" Challenge** – (<https://portfolium.com/challenge/myCSUNstory>) Due to time certain presentation, this agenda topic was deferred to the April ATC meeting.

6. Discussion Topics

- a. **Online Class Evaluations** – Janet Oh provided a handout, [administering student evaluations of faculty \(SEF\) online](#). The student evaluation of faculty has primarily been a paper process. However, online courses have had the opportunity to opt-in to offer evaluations online. The Department of Physical Therapy has gone fully online.

A taskforce was created to determine next steps and move the entire campus to a fully online process. The first step taken by the taskforce has been to determine faculty concerns about lower response rates with online evaluations.

A small pilot was conducted in Fall 2015. As of Spring 2016 all of the iPad courses had the option to use the online evaluations and the Psychology Faculty and Child and Adolescent Development faculty have had the option to voluntarily use the online evaluations. Faculty were encouraged to give time to student in class to complete the evaluations because if students are not given time during class, the response rates are low. The next steps are to conduct a pilot with an entire college and a [resolution on Administering Student Evaluations of Faculty \(SEF\) online](#) will be presented at the Faculty Senate meeting, scheduled for Thursday, March 9, 2017.

Joel Krantz inquired on whether the new online course evaluation will be compatible with Canvas. Janet Oh stated that CourseEval has a Canvas plug-in which will allow students to find surveys and respond to evaluations much easier. It also allows faculty to set a window of time for students to complete the evaluations during class time. The questions will remain the same, the evaluations will be simply moved online from paper form.

Janet Oh shared that there is a separate pilot project to develop electronic copies of evaluation summaries instead of keeping the paper form.

- b. **Curating Your Video Playlist** – Joel Krantz stated that videos are generated as senior film projects. He shared that when hosting videos in Box, a preview video is automatically generated and the video quality is sometimes poorer than when videos are uploaded to YouTube. Ryan Conlogue shared that a new version of Box is available that will enhance the quality of videos; he offered to work with the Department of Cinema and Television Arts to test the Box version. Ardavan Asef-Vaziri shared that he uses [Camtasia](#) to record his video lectures and to incorporate Excel for computations. Students in his course are usually asked to complete a quiz on the video lecture prior to attending class.

7. **Department/College Issues** – None.

8. **Policy** – None.

9. **New Business** – None.

- 10. Joint Meeting with ACAT** - Provost Li shared that there has been discussion at Faculty Senate about a resolution focusing on online student evaluations of faculty. There are multiple benefits for the online process. If faculty allow students in-class time to complete the online evaluation, the response rate will be significantly higher than the paper form. The collection of evaluations is also much easier in an online format and promotes sustainability. Having electronic evaluations will save time for the College Deans and Faculty Chairs as it will provide an easier format for review. A second step is to generate summaries of student comments. Diane Stephens stated that the Department of English, Department of Religious Studies and Department of Psychology are piloting OnBase which allows electronic storage and retrieval of information. Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures and Health Sciences have also expressed interest.

Provost Li stated that as of August 1, 2017, the California State University system is migrating from using the legacy student application system, Mentor to Cal State Apply. The new Cal State Apply platform will allow customization for each department, including questions and the submission of materials. CSUN graduate programs are currently piloting CollegeNet and may also choose to use Cal State Apply. The application systems are very promising; however, there is currently no firm timeline for the graduate application transition. For graduate admission, there is more paperwork and different admission process. The CSU campuses that are transitioning from the quarter to semester system are currently piloting the Cal State Apply program. CSUN will be one of the early CSU campuses to transition from Mentor to Cal State Apply for the undergraduate population.

Henk Postma shared that several universities have experimented with the major factor for drop out which is the sense of belongings that students have when they come into campus. There are specific processes that can be developed as students answer specific questions upon enrollment. Provost Li shared that CSUN has partnered with Stanford University to promote college persistence and achievement. First time freshmen are given a 30-minute intervention, those who were in the Early Start program were required to participate, the rest of the freshmen are encouraged to participate. Last year approximately 3,000 students participated and were given a control and a standard question. The standard group was given the same question that was given to other universities. The control group received a CSUN-specific question. The intervention had the largest impact on the Pell Grant and first time generation students. The questionnaire is now administered with all students and the main idea continues to be how can we better serve our students. The EAB Student Success Collaborative has also been implemented. It provides analytic tools to help identify students that are at risk. This has been used for the past two years and the results have been positive. The campus has also identified Data Champions in each College to enable data to be more easily accessible by faculty.

Jerry Schutte shared that five out of the last six years he has sent an encouraging letter to students prior to their final examination. This resulted in positive reviews from students. Last year, he did not send the letter and he did not receive the same positive feedback. This year, the same letters will be sent out to students as a study to see if student react in the same positive manner as previous years.

Provost Li closed by sharing that the rollout of Canvas has been very successful to date in addition to VARJAM. He noted that we are likely to see an increasing use of robotics and virtual and augmented reality.

Meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.