

Faculty Senate Information Technology Committee

October 23, 2009

Attendance:

Members: Brian Giza, Nigel Ward, Carolyn Awalt, Robert Wren.

Ex Officio and Guests: Miguel Sifuentes, Mary Duffy, Olga Kosheleva, Robert Stakes, Stephen Riter, Frank Poblano, Lizette Gameros.

1. New Business: The faculty in the College of Education have issues with Blackboard. Since we don't know the specifics yet, it was asked to make it an agenda item for our next meeting.
The problems may be a training issue, or perhaps it is the difference between the UT Distance Campus and the campus version, they look alike but don't have the same functionality. If the faculty doesn't know to accept it as a trusted site, when the pop-up shows up, it will disable everything. The school of nursing has also had problems (no details yet). Faculty can get help from the FIT lab.
2. Minutes: Minutes from September 25, 2009 were approved.
3. Introduction to the Student Technology Support Center. Frank Poblano provided an overview of the new facility and the services that would be provided: Computer Clinic (free), Mobile Computing Area, Hi-End Computing Area, Collaborative Hubs (room 337), Software experts, IT Helpdesk. There will also be color printing and networked scanning equipment and a robust array of Ethernet ports and wireless access as well as equipment checkout (laptops, camcorders, etc). The general purpose of the facility is instruction and collaborations (students). It is intended to enhance and expand access that is currently in the Atlas and LACIT labs. In addition the 1301 lab is in the same area as is the Special Needs Room. The project was paid for through library gift funds as well as incentive and tech fee funds. The library was selected because it has the longest hours of operation on campus and 72% of the student population visit the library. Although this facility is primarily intended for UTEP students, faculty and staff will not be turned away.
Robert Stakes discussed the merging of staff (IT and Library) as well as other collaborative initiatives that the library is pursuing: peer leadership program.
It was recommended that we collect [the](#) questions that walk-ins, email [inquiries](#), etc, [bring up](#). This is already being done through the helpdesk software.
It was suggested that a link be added to MYUTEP for IT (what's new or Quick Lines).
If faculty want to make suggestions or recommendations, they should contact frank Poblano.
4. Faculty Senate. Stephen Riter will attend the next Senate meeting (November 10, 2009) and present or discuss the committee's annual report as well as the survey results from the IT survey.
5. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on November 20, 2009 at 11:10AM, in the library, room 325.
6. Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 AM.