Meeting Notes from 04-22-14, 2:30 pm, Weir Hall Room 115

Members Present: Penny Rice, Elliott Hutchcraft, Tammy Goulet, Jimmy Ball, Marilyn Mendolia, Wayne Shaw, Maurice Eftink, Mike Mossing

Blackboard:

Last year this committee developed a policy concerning the removal of old courses from Blackboard. It was decided to keep four years worth of courses and delete anything older than that. Deletions will occur in the May/June timeframe each year. In the coming weeks, PR will send out messages to all Bb instructors reminding them that any courses from the 2009-2010 time frame will be removed. Deletions this will year take place beginning June 1, 2014.

Classroom Technology:

The Classroom Technology project will continue this year. Dr. Eftink stated that funds will be available. Rice will contact department. chairs beginning in June to gather room requests for new/upgraded technology.

Learning Management System (LMS) Evaluation:

JB reported that this committee is being tasked with performing an LMS evaluation.

Purpose

The University of Mississippi (UM) has hosted the Blackboard Learn LMS platform since the late 1900s, when the product was named CourseInfo. We want to evaluate and select the LMS platform that would be in place for the next five (5) years. As a result, the Instructional Technology Standing Committee (ITSC) will guide an evaluation of LMS platforms with input from outside the committee.

Platform Requirements

• Vendor or on-premise hosted platforms will be considered.
• A vendor offered solution, which includes software maintenance and ongoing enhancements, is needed.
• Beyond a transition phase, one LMS platform is required, as opposed to multiple LMS platforms.

LMS Evaluation Timeline (Tentative)

2014:
- **May/June:** Review ECAR Faculty Study Results
- **June:** Draft the LMS Evaluation Criteria
- **July:** Send RFI to Vendors
- **August:** Coordinate Vendor Presentations
- **Fall Semester:**
    - Attend Vendor Presentations
    - Seek Faculty Input Through a Survey?
    - Instructor Pilots?

2015:
- **February 15:** Instructional Technology Standing Committee Makes LMS Recommendation

UM Blackboard Utilization

UM Blackboard Utilization	
Date Range	February 12 - April 8, 2014
Android Logins	36,779
iPad Logins	21,415
iPhone Logins	52,339
Mobile Learn App Logins	203,494
Silk (Kindle) Logins	818
Total Mobile Logins	**314,845 (34%)**
Apple/Mac Logins	291,523
Windows Logins	324,282
Linux Logins	3,535
Total Logins	**934,185**
Unique WebID Logins	**19,393**

LMS Usage and Availability Facts

- Existing State Contracts: Blackboard, Canvas (CC)
- Internet2 NET+ Vendors:
    - Canvas (general availability)
    - Blackboard (service validation)
    - Desire2Learn (early adopter)

- MS IHLs using Blackboard: ASU, JSU, MSU, MUW, MVSU, UM, USM
- MS IHLs using Canvas: DSU, UMMC

Questions

- How does the committee want to solicit faculty input?
    - Mossing will approach the faculty senate academic affairs subcommittee to seek their input.
    - Later on we may want to survey all instructors about their LMS usage.

- Pilot? All of the major LMS systems will allow anyone to have a trial account to evaluate system features.
    - Blackboard - coursesites.com
    - Canvas - canvas.instructure.com
    - Desire2Learn - desire2learn.com/try

Goulet expressed concern that systems other than Blackboard may not work with many of the third party Building Blocks that we currently rely on within Blackboard. She gave an example of a textbook publisher that does not integrate with Canvas. This has necessitated that one community college switch textbooks. She stressed that we should not let the LMS system dictate which books instructors can use. The LMS we choose should integrate with all of the major publishers and also with Turning Technologies Clickers (which is the clicker that our campus supports).

JB mentioned that we may want to look into getting a site license for Respondus test creation software. This software allows an instructor to create a test in the Respondus interface and then publish that test to the campus LMS system. Eftink and Hutchcraft volunteered to try out this software and provide further feedback to the committee on its usefulness.

Attendance Scanners:

JB reported that attendance scanners are being placed in additional rooms in Bishop, Bryant and Music. Scanners will also be added to Carrier and Anderson in the fall.

The meeting was dismissed at 3:30 pm.