Minutes of the TLTR Meeting - Wednesday, November 22, 2000 - ELIB 211 - 3:30-5:00pm
Approved: January 19, 2001

Members Present:
Jonathan Anderson  John Attebury  Tia Anderson  Michael Ciri  Patrick Fitzgerald
Shirley Grubb    Steve Johnson    Rebecca Moorman  Alice Tersteeg  Todd Walters
Susan Warner
Members Absent:
Michael Byer  Mark Graves  Steve Hamilton  Shannon Kempton
Guests Present:
Don Carlo  Joe Nell  Joseph Sears  Roberta Stell

Meeting Agenda:   1.  Approve old minutes
  2.  Course Management Systems
  3.  Electronic Books
  4.  Tech Forums
     -  Update on planning
     -  New forum ideas
  5.  Date & Time of Next Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 3:30p by chairperson, Rebecca Moorman. Proposed agenda amended to begin with roll call to assure a quorum present, approve previous minutes at end of meeting, and add information on the fall proposals.

2. Michael Ciri presented general information about Course Management Systems (CMS). Question asked why he had been asked to do this. UA Statewide may purchase licensing of CMS Blackboard for statewide use. The rational being that UA would appear to be a single entity overcoming the fear that each "group" [campus, degree program] would have their own CMS making it difficult for students to learn each technology required for registering across campuses, etc. It would standardize the course support systems and present one University of Alaska brand.
   - Jonathan Anderson pointed out that it may confuse students because in fact UA is not one but three schools. Our system is not seamless, transcript evaluation for like-numbered courses is still required between the MAU's.
   - Susan Warner suggested we hold a forum to gather input from students and faculty identifying specific features/capabilities a CMS should have for UAS. Michael will sponsor such a forum to gather guiding principles for a CMS. Examples of features included:
     - UAS currently does not require a password; Blackboard does. Do we want potential students to be able to browse our schedule of classes, syllabi, etc.
     - UAS offers multiple semesters (more than one semester active at the same time) while Blackboard does not
     - UAS Online can serve as a portal to the faculty members "chosen" web site if not UAS Online
     - Resources (library for example) can be treated as dynamic content, added to each course home site in one action.
   - Pat Fitzgerald wanted to know what Blackboard was selected by Statewide. UAA and UAF faculty are already using a "vanilla" version of Blackboard (cost around $5,000 per campus). Statewide is considering the Enterprise Version of Blackboard - more bells and whistles. Money has been allocated from the FY01 unspent initiative pool but the transaction has not been completed so UAS can impact the decision.
   - Jonathan Anderson moved that a letter be prepared and forwarded to the Statewide Academic Council (SAC), Informational Technology Council (ITC) and the Coalition of
Student Leaders recommending that no decision be made until UAS has had a chance to have a broad examination (forum, etc.) of Blackboard and the institutional purchase of Blackboard. Motion was seconded and passed. Rebecca Moorman will draft the letter and have it reviewed by Jonathan Anderson, Michael Ciri, Susan Warner, and Tia Anderson.

3. Since the CMS discussion was prolonged, the chairperson recommended TLTR skip agenda item 3 and move to forum reports. Michael Ciri passed out a report showing frequency of classes during specific times. The only ideal time noted was 11:30am to noon, not a particularly viable time allotment for panel presentations.

- Shirley Grubb reported that the Employer Forum committee had met and are looking for one or two times the week of January 22 - 27 to hold panel discussions.
- Michael Ciri will sponsor a CMS forum that would be split (one in January and one in February).
- Robbie Stell reported that UAF has a Faculty Development web site that would lead to possible teaching/learning discussions/forums about topics like online course grading. The URL has gone to UAS faculty chairs; Rebecca will get the URL for inclusion in this meeting's minutes. <www.uaf.edu/provost/faculty_development/>
- Tia Anderson said there would be a Women and Technology Forum in March

4. Don Carlo introduced himself as a full-time student wanting to learn about the TLTR funds, what they go for and who decides. He's interested in obtaining new chairs for the computer lab. Rebecca explained how the TLTR administered the technology fees. Robbie Stell explained that chair and like items are to be purchased through the Facilities Services managed budget for maintenance and renewal. Don Carlo expressed interest in becoming a member of the TLTR.

5. It was noted that Alice Albrecht who previously provided administrative support for the TLTR is no longer an employee, although she is still a part-time student. Send correspondence now to Rebecca.Moorman@uas.alaska.edu or call her at 465-6345 until a replacement has been hired.

6. An incomplete list of fall special project proposals was distributed. Todd Walter will facilitate the sub-committee of Alice Tersteeg, Mark Graves, and Shannon Kempton. First reading of the committees report on priority listing of the proposals will be at the next TLTR meeting scheduled for Friday, December 1 at 8:30am in ELIB 211.

7. The draft minutes of the October 27, 2000 meeting were accepted as amended.

(Paragraph 3 - $5,000 was not TLTR funds but statewide money)
(Strike the sentence about the $24,000 carry forward)

Moved, seconded and passed that the meeting adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.