

# **Committee on Educational Technology (CET)**

**Fall 2013** 

# Thursday October 31, 2013, 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Seelye B4, Seelye Hall

Present: Tom Laughner (Co-Chair), Dominique Thiebaut (Co-Chair), Tony Caldanaro, Julia Edwards, David Gregory, Deborah Haas-Wilson, Elisa Lanzi, Joseph O'Rourke, Beth Powell, Hélène Visentin, Mark Umstot

#### 1. Introductions

• J. Edwards, D. Haas-Wilson, and B. Powell were introduced to the group.

### 2. Approval of October 8 Minutes

## 3. Virtual Desktop Tool (VCL)

- Kevin Rocha, Manager of Learning Spaces/Event Services, was to present a demo but was out sick.
- VCL was originally designed for students to have access to their work while off campus.
- It makes it possible for students to work on their own computers.
- It was developed by North Carolina State University.
- It has been integrated at all five colleges of the Five Colleges.

### 4. Grant Discussions (http://sophia.smith.edu/blog/cet)

- Equipment must be available to students as well as faculty.
- It is more appropriate that requests for tablets be made through the Committee on Faculty Compensation and Development (CFCD).
  - Christiane Metral's and Maria Succi-Hempstead's request went through the CFCD.
  - Tablets may go the way of laptops, as there are more and more showing up on campus.
    - The group discussed the new iPad that had just been released. It weighs one pound, while the previous version weighs 1.4 pounds.
  - There are about 250 requests that go through the CFCD.
- Faculty who receive equipment through the CET receive priority, but the equipment is owned by ETS to make available to other faculty.

- The group discussed Jon Caris' proposal.
  - The proposal includes teaching and research involving faculty and staff.
  - o It cannot easily be used by faculty in other departments.
  - o Facilities is interested in his project.
- The group discussed Lucretia Knapp's proposal.
  - There was a question as to whether the Art Department should fund it instead.
  - o Is the use only for the Art Department?
- All of the proposals were approved.
- The group discussed guidelines for requesting funding.
  - o Faculty may be unaware of which committee to approach for funding.
  - Should a request begin with the faculty member's department and move along to the CET once rejected? Should the request then move along to the CFCD once rejected by the CET?
  - o CET grants involve demonstrations.
    - The group concurred that it is a good idea to involve demonstrations to show others how to use the technology developed.
  - o CET grants do not need to be new to campus, but rather new to the individual.
    - What should the CET fund if it is not new?
  - When the CET approves a grant M. Umstot will send a letter to the faculty member on behalf of T. Laughner and D. Thiebaut.
  - o There was discussion of updating the CET guidelines.

#### 5. Demonstrations of VoiceThread and Tiki-Toki

- VoiceThread Demo
  - Aside from voice recording of content, it has the ability to write comments.
  - There is drawing capability. A line drawn will disappear after a couple of seconds.
  - o An institutional license costs \$1,000 annually.
- Tiki-Toki Demo
  - o It is a timeline tool.
  - o It has the capability to make more than one timeline at once.

## 6. 2013-2014 Agenda

- The group discussed future agenda items.
  - o Clarification of CET guidelines
  - o Grants are available to faculty and not to students.
  - o Review list of software (what software is supported by whom)
  - o The SPSS license is expiring.
    - The cost went up by 30%.
    - Discussion of alternatives
  - o Is there a role in this group for online learning?
  - The Sherrerd Center provides slots for ETS to make presentations about technology. ETS can use those slots for faculty to present how they're using technology.
  - o Campus tours: CET should meet in classrooms with technology.