Minutes - eLearning Council Meeting

Thursday, February 20, 2020 | 1:30 PM-3:00 PM

Via Blackboard Collaborate

Attendees: Justin Louder, Chyrel Mayfield, David Doerfert, Kurt Caswell, Pat McConnel, Kathy Austin, Leslie DeBusk, Otto Ratheal, Jody Roginson, Marcus Tanner, Jongpil Cheon, Suzanne Tapp, Katie Randolph, Brent Guinn, Laura Heinz, Mitzi Ziegner, Robert Gonzalez, Sandra Huston, Vickie Sutton, Larry Phillippe, Clay Taylor, John R. Thomas, Jennifer Hughes, Karissa Greathouse

I.   *Call to Order:* Meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Dr. Justin Louder.

II. *Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting***:** Dr. Kathy Austin made a motion to approve and Dr. David Doerfert seconded. Minutes from the previous eLearning Council Meeting, held on 1/16/20, were approved.

III. *New Distance Program Approvals:*
   a. *Master of Business Administration in Costa Rica:* Ms. Jessica Carrillo spoke on the Master of Business Administration in Costa Rica. Dr. Doerfert made a motion to approve and Mr. Kurt Caswell seconded. The proposal will be voted on in the next Academic Program Subcommittee Meeting.
   b. *Concentration in Big Data Strategy:* Ms. Carrillo spoke on the Concentration in Big Data Strategy. Dr. Doerfert made a motion to approve and Mr. Caswell seconded. The proposal will be voted on in the next Academic Program Subcommittee Meeting.
   c. *Master of Science in Architecture in El Paso:* Dr. Robert Gonzalez spoke on the Master of Science in Architecture in El Paso. Ms. Jody Roginson made a motion to approve and Ms. Mitzi Ziegner seconded. The proposal will be voted on in the next Academic Program Subcommittee Meeting.

IV. *Feedback Fruits Demo:* Ms. Chyrel Mayfield presented the Feedback Fruits Demo to the council. Feedback Fruits is a consortium that provides opportunity to have one provider with multiple tools to create interactive content. A brief overview was given, and questions and answers were discussed with the committee. eLearning is planning to conduct a training for Feedback Fruits. If all goes well, the training will be held sometime in March or April of 2020 at the TLPDC. The Feedback Fruit materials and videos will be captioned. This product came to Texas Tech as the founders were trying to expand it into the United States. Dr. Austin and Mr. John R. Thomas worked diligently to integrate this product into Blackboard. This is a tool that many faculty have said to be useful. Dr. Louder will send out the video link for this demo to the council. If anyone is interested in having a member of the eLearning Instructional Design team speak with them regarding this product, please contact Dr. Lisa Leach and/or Ms. Mayfield.

V.   *Strategic Plan for Accessibility:* Dr. Louder spoke on the Strategic Plan for Accessibility. The committee has previously viewed, voted on and approved this plan to continue through the approval processes. New modifications have been made since and now the plan is being routed through the approval process once again. eLearning hopes to have the Strategic Plan for Accessibility implemented by the Fall semester of 2020.

VI.   ***Blackboard Updates:*** Dr. Austin and Mr. Thomas spoke on the Blackboard Updates. The General Council has reached an agreement with the Blackboard Legal Council. Dr. Austin has also been working with various other leaders on campus regarding these Blackboard contracts. The four contracts that are in negotiations are Blackboard Learn Higher Education, Blackboard Learn K-12, Blackboard Services and Blackboard Connect. The university is in the process of preparing to provide this information to the Board of Regents in May for review. If in agreement, the university will have a four-year term agreement in place with an option to renew. As a result of the new contracts in place, the university is exploring the possibility transitioning from Blackboard Learn as a managed hosted system to a Blackboard Learn managed SAAS system or Software as a Service. Blackboard Analytics for Learn continues to move forward and data is being collected to bring to this group. Blackboard Community also continues to be viewed and the Information Technology department is working on getting this service built in our test environment. There will be a notification soon regarding a Blackboard Learn update. This scheduled update will be non-impactful to campus community and courses that may be going on.

VII.   ***Open Discussion:*** Dr. Louder may reach out to the council via email regarding the March eLearning Council Meeting**.**

VIII.   ***Adjourn:*** Meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.