Education and Technology Committee

2017-18 Year-End Report

The committee met six time during the 2017-18 academic year: Sep. 27, 2017; Oct. 11, 2017; Oct. 25, 2017; Jan 31, 2018; Feb. 12, 2018; Feb. 26, 2018. The committee met with the Chancellor on Oct. 11, and with the Provost on Oct. 25, to hear their recommendations to (1) discontinue the use of ProctorU and (2) migrate to the Canvas learning management system (LMS). For more information about discussions regarding ProctorU and a proposed change in LMS, please see the committee minutes that are posted at this link.

ProctorU

On April 4, 2018, the ProctorU working group that includes Dr. Gina Hogue, Henry Torres and Kevin Downum submitted a directive for the discontinuation of ProctorU that takes effect July 1, 2018. The working group advised that after detailed meetings and discussions with the Executive Council, Dr. Cooksey has explained in the directive that BioSigTM will be used for identity authentication for all online courses and other existing tools (Respondus Lockdown Browser with Monitor, Blackboard Collaborate, Zoom, and Software Secure) can be used for additional online course monitoring. The Faculty Center will provide assistance with live/remote proctoring applications.

The committee has not submitted a proposal in favor of or in opposition to a decision to discontinue the use of ProctorU to authenticate students and monitor online exams.

Canvas LMS

Since 2015 the committee has collaborated with Information Technology Services (ITS) to consider options and alternatives to Blackboard. For more information, please see the committee minutes and the LMS Review documents that are posted at this link. The Faculty Center is currently conducting a "soft-pilot" of Canvas and will implement a small-scale pilot test in the fall 2018 semester. At this time, the Faculty Center is hosting "test drive" sessions for faculty who may be interested in learning more about Canvas.

As the committee continues to hear about the benefits of Canvas vs. Blackboard, we have not submitted a proposal in favor of or in opposition to a change in LMS.

Respectfully submitted, Jollean Sinclaire

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