Nancy Wingo called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. She asked attendees to introduce themselves by name and school affiliation. Today’s agenda focused on our LMS evaluation process, with the goal of making recommendations for next steps.

Dr. Elizabeth Fisher, Chair of the Instructional Designers’ Consortium (IDC), made a PowerPoint presentation, “Learning Management System Usability Study Results.” The committee discussed the possibility of a perceived lack of participation in testing, in that only 81 out of 189 participants completed the survey. The group discussed timing with regards to the beginning of Fall Term as a possible deterrent, but most did not believe this was a major factor, since the survey closed on October 2. Other possibilities mentioned included participant complacency, desire to keep the current LMS (Blackboard), or leaving the choice to UAB administration. Dr. Fisher noted the goal of the LMS evaluation was to have a 21st century instructional technology system, and Dr. Bidez encouraged committee members to think in terms of the next 3 to 5 years when considering learning management systems.

The committee discussed recommendations made by the IDC and agreed to present all of them to the Advisory Council. These recommendations include:

1. Narrow the LMS vendor pool to Blackboard and Canvas, based on outcomes from the entire LMS evaluation process, including usability testing and demos by vendors.

2. Address infrastructure.
   Currently, UAB has a single AskIT Help Desk that categorizes tickets, sends them to appropriate staff, and then escalates issues until resolution. David Yother noted that this system was not meeting all needs, and the committee agreed that the most desirable infrastructure would include dedicated support for our learning management system. We are awaiting a quote from Canvas for the cost of having a dedicated contact for each school at UAB on a 24/7 basis. Using Canvas 24/7 support would be subject to approval of the Online Academic Advisory Council.

3. Conduct usability studies using 3rd party tools.
Dan Murphy suggested that vendors start with a “blank slate” and submit updated contracts including a full portfolio. Committee members will prepare questions for next meetings with vendor sales and delivery representatives. Ramsey Scott and his team will test Banner integration, and based on results of meeting with vendors, we can identify testers for other 3rd party tools.

4. Continue access to Canvas shells for faculty, staff, and students to explore until a final decision is made.

5. Seek internal/external testimonials.
   Internal Testimonials: The School of Nursing and the Division of eLearning and Professional Studies (eLPS) are piloting Canvas. Dr. Bidez noted that currently eLPS is using Canvas for professional certificate programs that do not require the use of Banner. Dan Murphy and others in the School of Nursing’s Office of Professional Development just launched a professional development course using Canvas.

   External Testimonials: The University of Maryland recently began using Canvas 24/7. Dr. Jackie Moss in the UAB School of Nursing should be able to assist us in obtaining more information from the University of Maryland. Other members of the committee volunteered to contact various universities to seek testimonials (see action items below).

On behalf of the Advisory Council, Dr. Bidez thanked the Instructional Designers’ Consortium, especially Dr. Fisher, for their service to the university.

Nancy Wingo adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Action Items.
1. Specific assignments of committee members to provide testimonials of other Canvas-user institutions to Nancy Wingo:
   a. Pam Paustian: UCF and Auburn
   b. David Yother: Auburn
   c. Nancy Wingo: University of Maryland (Jackie Moss – contact)
   d. Martha Bidez: Ask Canvas representative for names of about five institutions

2. Martha Bidez: Obtain quotes from Blackboard and Canvas for 24/7 support at UAB

3. All committee members: send questions for meetings with vendors to Nancy Wingo

4. Martha Bidez will discuss communication strategies for updates on this process with Jackie Moss, Chair of the Advisory Council.

5. Nancy Wingo will present internal/external testimonials and minutes of today’s meeting to the Online Academic Advisory Council in preparation for their meeting on November 12, 2013.

The next meeting of the Enabling Technologies Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, 2013 at 10:00-11:00 a.m. in NB 301.