Minutes

Advisory Council
Administration Building
Penthouse, Large Conference Room
Tuesday, September 8, 2015
10:00–11:30 AM


Members Absent. Sylvia Britt, Donald Burke, Maria Hopkins, Craig Hoesley, Suzanne Judd, Karen Kennedy, Candra Long, Tracy Lyons, Michelle Robinson, Terrence Shaneyfelt, and Katherine Weise.


Welcome from the Chair
Dr. Jackie Moss called the meeting to order.

Presentation by UAB Vice President, Information Technology/CIO
Slide Presentation. Dr. Curt Carver presented "Moving at the Speed of Trust," providing an overview of the innovations in Information Technology (IT) since his tenure at UAB began in June. IT and eLPS collaborate for a smooth integration of Canvas and Banner, including the addition of new faculty hires in Canvas by this November and allowing faculty to self-publish courses. Drs. Carver and Fisher have proposed a UAB/Canvas Strategic Partnership meeting on November 18 through 20, to determine where we are currently, where we are going, automating the Title IV teaching process, using intelligent agents to build the if-then statement, building the LMS model, and more.

The President gave nine strategic imperatives that Dr. Carver has whittled to seven currently, listed in priority order: 1) Secure the university computing environment. 2) Build IT shared governance. 3) Create a world-class IT organization. 4) Generate business value. 5) UAB innovation through partnerships with institutional business owners. 6) Foster a data-driven decision-making culture. 7) Enhance IT excellence.

Chair’s Report
New Members. Dr. Moss introduced new members: Dr. Craig Hoesley, Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education, School of Medicine; Dr. Robert Kleinstein, Associate Dean for Professional Studies, School of Optometry; Dr. Katherine Weise, Director of Pediatric Optometry Services, School of Optometry; and Dr. Lou Anne Worthington, Associate Dean, School of Education.
Suggestions for eLAC school/unit representation should be sent to Cynthia Helms at helms@uab.edu.

Minutes. The Minutes from May 12, 2015 and July 14, 2015 were approved.


Proctoring Guidelines. The Council reviewed and approved with edits, “UAB eLearning Digital Content Guidelines.” The final version will be distributed to eLAC along with ProctorU training and technology. Heather Thompson, the new eLPS Web Communications Manager, will post the guidelines on our website. eLAC members may inform their schools or a forum conducted by eLPS staff may be scheduled to rollout proctoring among faculty members on a campus-wide basis. Cynthia will query eLAC members to schedule forums as-needed.

Digital Content Guidelines (DCG). The eLAC Policies & Procedures Committee shaped the document that was presented for eLAC review and approval at today’s meeting,”UAB eLearning Digital Content Guidelines.” The Division of eLearning and Professional Studies collaborated with UAB Information Technology and the Office of Counsel to edit for digital use, the “UAB Mass Communications and Content Policy” from the UAB Policies and Procedures Library. The Council approved the DCG with minor amendments.

Interim Executive Director’s Report

9th Annual UA System Scholar’s Institute (SI) 2016. Dr. Elizabeth Fisher and Dr. Tracee Synco represent UAB on the committee for the 2016 SI which will be held on the Huntsville campus.

School Issues with Transfer Credit. The PPC asked eLAC to look at the issue of some courses on student transcripts listed as “online” not being accepted at UAB. We are working with the Registrar’s Office and the Provost to resolve this matter. The application program interface (API) call did not bring resolution. The transfer school’s accreditation is not a factor. UAB has a good articulation agreement. The registrar says that transfer courses without “online” designation but that are actually online are accepted; however those that are designated “online” are not accepted but may be used for elective credit. UAB does not designate “online” on transcripts; therefore, all courses are accepted at other schools. After discussion among the Council, the decision was made to recommend this matter to the Faculty Senate.

Faculty Development Program/Toolkit. eLPS is redesigning their website with Heather performing aesthetics. She and her team are using web analytics to identify faculty and students who visit the website, targeting that population.

eLearning Services Update. Samira Laouzai reported that the BlazerNet, Banner, Website, and Canvas teams are working to resolve the issue from the first day of class (August 24) in order to have a smooth beginning of the B-Term that begins on October 19.

Standing Committee Reports

Quality Curriculum (QCC). Dr. Linda Moneyham reported that we have obtained support from the Provost to award faculty for quality innovative online courses.

Policies and Procedures (PPC). Dr. Donna Slovensky reviewed topics of the DCG and transfer of credit policy. She announced discussion in the PPC about an online student orientation course developed by eLPS and incorporating Disability Support Services in the syllabus.

Enabling Technologies (ETC). Dr. Nancy Wingo summarized that the ETC is piloting authentication.
Dr. Jonathan Waugh announced his acceptance as Chair, Respiratory Therapy at Samford University, leaving UAB on September 18. The question was raised about how the eLearning Advisory Council will integrate classroom and online teaching from a faculty perspective as we move forward, given the future of the CTL. Responses included that eLAC will be a forum for other enhanced technologies, and that eLAC membership includes school representatives who are not online faculty. Dr. Waugh introduced the new Director of the CTL, Dr. Scott Phillips and the new Chair of the CTL Academic Advisory Committee, Dr. Nancy Wingo. Both sit on the Enabling Technologies Committee that incorporates both classroom and online teaching in their scope.

Dr. Moss adjourned the meeting at 11:30AM.

The next meeting of the eLearning Advisory Council is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10th at 10:00AM.