Delivering core solutions and propelling innovation

NDSU IT Council Meeting
Monday, Sept. 14, 2020, 2 p.m.
Online, using Zoom

Meeting Notes

Present: Marc Wallman, Jason Blosser, Ed Deckard, Enrique Garcia, Carlos Hawley, Maggie Latterell, Mary McCall, Joe Mocnik, Robert Pieri, Steve Sobiech, Kristi Steinmann, Kimberly Wallin; CeCe Rohwedder

Unable to attend: Matthew Friedmann, Dean Gross, Dane Skow

1. Members were welcomed, and introductions were conducted.

2. Budget update:
   - IT will need to revamp the burden on the student technology fee funds – this will be discussed in October or November.
   - It is expected that a request for an increase to the student technology fee will be submitted; it will be first discussed with this group and the Technology Fee Advisory Committee.
   - Billing adjustments to the cost of phone lines may be needed.

3. Feedback on Hyflex experience:
   - Kudos to the Help Desk staff who’ve assisted Dr. Pieri for four hours the other day. Dr. Pieri has trouble authenticating to one NDUS screen, which is problematic when teaching remotely; Enrique recommended that such issues be reported to NDSU’s IT Help Desk. In Dolve 202 and 215, a couple of laptop cameras are used to be able to see all the students, and it’s working. Dr. Pieri’s freshmen benefitted from the initial in-person teaching experience, as it helped establish a relationship with him. Attendance has been very good overall in his classes.
   - Dr. Hawley is teaching totally remotely, synchronously, and it is going well. His office hours are conducted both in person and via Bb Collaborate.
   - Dr. Deckard is teaching four classes, from beginning freshmen to graduate level students. It is going well, but there are difficulties in preparing for instruction. Most faculty in his department are being stretched pretty thin, especially if they are also involved in research projects. Dr. Deckard teaches either face-to-face or via synchronous remote instruction, except for one course which he teaches remotely totally unsynchronously.
   - Dr. McCall is on leave at this time. Her husband, in Pharmacy, is co-teaching a freshman class via Hyflex – so far, things are going smoothly.
   - Dr. Wallin is also co-teaching a course, the Foundations of Science, UNIV150, both in-person and remotely. There were issues with the first small-group breakout session via Zoom, but it is expected that this will go better at the second attempt. Her husband also teaches, a class of 18
students; at the first in-person class, one student was diagnosed COVID-positive, and since then most students switched to attending via Zoom.

- Maggie said Beckwith and Festival Halls are hosting classes, and they are much impressed with the technology and its support – kudos, especially, to Trevor McNeil.

4. Overview of CARES Act funds: Marc and IT staff reviewed an outline of the various projects the IT Division is managing with awarded CARES Act funds.

5. NDUS update: the Labster license is covered by the NDUS. NDUS also has allocated funds on the Yuja license.

6. MFA enrollment of students: enrollment of the students not yet enrolled will soon begin, to be completed during the current semester.

7. IT Division department updates:
   - During the summer, LAIC staff have been assisting faculty with instructional design.
   - The IT website has been revamped, and searchability should be easier; feedback will be appreciated.

8. Availability/preference for a standing date of monthly meetings October – May: ITC members are asked to email CeCe with time frames that will not work for them; she will then schedule monthly meetings through May.

9. Adjournment