

## Academic Technology Committee Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2012

The Academic Technology Committee is a sub-committee of the College Technology Committee and the Academic Senate that focuses on the academic technology needs of the college.

Present: I. Graff, P. Marcoux, D. Manno, V. Rapp, F. Vasilomanolakis

Recorder: L. Linka

The Academic Technology Committee meeting was called to order at 12:50 p.m.

This is a preliminary meeting in order to discuss surveys and other planning items prior to the first Academic Technology Committee meeting.

I. Graff presented [exploratory research questions related to a Student Technology Survey](#) for the committee to analyze in order to determine the technological needs of the students. The idea is to build a survey based on the questions outlined in the handout, and to ultimately include demographics.

It was stated that nowadays, the trend is leaning toward non-traditional teaching, as most students do not have the competence to learn in the traditional sense. Students in reading courses should have at the very least basic computer skills. It was suggested that El Camino College require competency/proficiency exams prior to admission. Computer proficiency should be a mandate, but will the school fund?

The committee agreed on the main goals stipulated on the survey:

- Plan for technology needs
- Inform educational practice
- Inform delivery of College services

There is a “digital divide” issue at ECC, and there was more discussion on testing for reading, writing and mathematics. Many students are alienated by the fact that they lack competence.

One of the goals of the survey results is to provide the counselors with information so they can speak with the students about technology during their initial interview. So many classes at ECC rely on technology, and there is a need to make more resources available to the students. Revisiting the competency issue: for example, many students register for Distance Education courses but do not know how to use a computer! Orientation for Distance Education is recommended, along with a pre-test to determine computer literacy. (Other community colleges require assessment testing).

The committee discussed students and communication:

- Gmail may be coming to ECC
- Use of Smartphones on college campuses is rising
- Android phones seem to be the most popular

- Very few students own iPads
- There is a gap at ECC – a digital chasm
  - Is this technological?
  - Is this economic?

Twelve years ago there was no technological equipment in the classrooms. Gradually upgrades began, and now all classrooms are equipped with some type of technology, many being upgraded to smart classrooms. More areas around campus are becoming wireless.

Do faculty allow technology in the classroom?

- Embrace it, don't fight it
- Use the phone as a resource in class
- Ask students what apps they use

When the draft of the survey is complete, I. Graff will forward it to the committee for review. There may be two random surveys, each asking different questions. A standardized survey was suggested, in order to determine the demographics of a class. Be futuristic with the survey. Embrace technology. Determine what the faculty are already using, what they need. Determine what the students are already using, what they need.

It was proposed that the committee offer a technology workshop in the spring, inviting vendors to participate and sponsor booths. Suggested vendors include:

- Apple
- Publishers: Prentice Hall, McGraw Hill, Cengage
- Android
- Google
- Gmail
- Dell

A sub-committee was recommended to coordinate the workshop, which could also include raffles and refreshments. The focus for the vendors should be academic, and the gain for the vendors would be to obtain names (sales) and be able to perform personalized workshops. There could also be breakout sessions and demonstrations by the vendors. The committee agreed that the Board and the Vice Presidents should be advised of this endeavor.

D. Manno will check the availability of the entire block of the Bookstore meeting rooms (Alondra Room, East Dining Room, Stadium Room and Decathlon Room) for dates in early spring (prior to spring break) for the vendor fair.

I. Graff provided the following resources to the committee for their perusal:

1. Ball State (Indiana) press release regarding Smartphone use
2. ECAR National Study of Undergraduate Students and Information Technology, 2011 (Research Report)
3. Educause Center for Applied Research Survey Questionnaire

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.