

EL CAMINO COLLEGE
MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 28, 2014

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.

Members Present: Pete Marcoux, Virginia Rapp, Dawn Charman, Lyn Clemons, Alice Grigsby, Noreth Men, David Pahl, Soshanna Potter, Daniel Shrader, Howard Story, Don Treat

Members Absent: Francis Baylen, Dwayne Hayden, Donna Manno, Dave Murphy, Sabra Sabio, Margaret Steinberg, Claudio Vilchis, Will Warren, Michael Wynne

Recorder: Laurie Linka

The Academic Technology Committee meeting was called to order at 12:37 p.m.

Technology Fair

P. Marcoux opened the meeting by requesting dates and comments in regards to the Technology Fair. He stated that the fairs held for the last two years have been big successes. An idea was presented about holding the fair on a flex day, when everyone would be on campus. It was stated that the administration prefers to spend more time on accreditation and SLO issues on flex day. Due to the numerous events held on flex day, there are too many choices to be made, and could diminish attendance to the fair. The committee decided to hold the fair in the spring, and the date would be February 13, 2015. The format will be similar to past fairs, with workshops taught by faculty, panels, vendors, and a keynote speaker. Due to the results of a survey taken after the last technology fair, the 2014 keynote speaker, Corine Horsington, may be asked to return. P. Marcoux advised the committee to speak with D. Manno if they have a specific vendor they would like invited. One idea was to have a grant writer/coordinator speak about finances. Another idea would be to advertise the workshops. Vendors will present and talk about their devices. Perhaps some grant recipients could speak about how they obtained their grant. A theme is needed for the conference; committee members were asked to submit ideas, encompassing the purpose of the fair – the future of technology. The fair will be a good place for faculty to see what is available to them. Surveys will be conducted after the fair, and this can help determine which device serves the faculty needs, as all the divisions have different needs, with the biggest issue being Wi-Fi. Whatever is purchased should be fully functional for the faculty.

Faculty laptops

It was announced that laptops would be kept for another year, and be exchanged out during fall 2015. V. Rapp will clarify this with F. Arce. Will there be administrative support for using your own device? In regards to using your own device, D. Treat stated that there are security issues, and the integrity of software must be maintained. Due to these security issues, ITS must have control of what is in and on the devices. Also, there is a high utilization of network access points. These issues apply to all buildings on campus. The cost to add Wi-Fi to older buildings is quite excessive, as you must physically wire the building for wireless. Humanities is wireless to a certain extent, as every other wall has a thickness of fourteen inches, which limits your access points. It was reiterated that wireless everywhere is quite cost prohibitive. There was a question regarding basis of the high cost.

Several access points may be required due to wall density. Also, ITS must build a security profile. As textbooks move to an online environment, wireless is becoming more necessary, and full coverage and a high level of security come at a high price – in the millions of dollars.

There was a discussion regarding the origin of laptops in the classroom. Dr. Fallo wanted laptops in the classroom, because OSHA has certain requirements regarding the desks. The desks in ECC classrooms may not be OSHA compliant, and laptops are exempt from these requirements.

ITS update

D. Treat told the committee he would be retiring in one month; P. Marcoux thanked him for all his hard work. D. Treat went on to say there would be three to four positions to be filled in the next couple of months for network securities. There are two new buildings on campus that need to be online prior to spring 2015 semester. ITS will start installing on November 15. In regards to the replacement for ITS director, Cabinet is waiting on the results from PlanNet, a consulting firm who is reviewing the state of technology on campus. Cabinet wants a better feel for the needs of the campus. They will then determine whether is it appropriate to hire a replacement for J. Wagner, or restructure the ITS department. ITS will then move forward to offer more wireless support on campus.

Other business

D. Treat was asked who is in charge of technology in the classroom. He replied there are five technicians responsible for the over 4000 devices on campus. Technology utilization has doubled or tripled in the last ten years, and there is much more equipment to maintain.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.