Faculty IT Committee for AS&E

Chair: Michael Roberts

Present: Michael Roberts, Sonia Banuele, James Adler, Paul Bergen, Paul Lehrman, Hyunmin Yi

Date and Time: November 24, 2014, 11AM-12 PM

Plan for this meeting: Review Classroom Committee meeting and plans for assessment of learning spaces

Topics:

1. Update on Learning Spaces report: Work of the Classroom Committee recommends a focus on incorporating flexibility, portable technology, and capacity for Skype and WebX into the new learning spaces.
2. Discussed Lois Stanley’s learning space planning committee work, including the need for flexibility in layouts, the capacity to both project images on a board and write on a surface for instruction, and the need to develop a consistent interface with A/V or other technology controls in learning spaces around campus. Considered possible survey or interviews with faculty to access these needs more effectively.
3. Discussed need for effective communication of updates in resources available, like the Adobe software and statistical software availability.
4. Our student representative reported that her experience with technology and physical plant of classroom spaces was suboptimal, reporting the resources were “behind” other similar schools, temperatures in rooms were unstable or unpredictable, and excessive ambient noise was present, especially in Robinson.
5. Discussed need for compatibility of MS Outlook with Chrome browsers.
6. Discussed use of portable electronic devices in the classroom, reported some students were pleased to have the devices banned in some classes.
7. Discussed newly available free app for CRS from Learning Catalytics
8. ITS reported ongoing efforts to integrate ITS services, including TUSK. Also reported better responsiveness for in-class classroom support after the consolidation of services, in part due to resources realized during TEAM initiative, also reported 24/7 help desk support now available through CDI in Maryland.

Next Meeting’s Plan: Discuss Autonomy with faculty websites, update on re-organization and hiring.