

University Information Technology Committee
Minutes
Monday, 04-26-2021
9:30 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://ufl.zoom.us/my/cacim/>

Present: Ray Issa, Ryan Yang, Amber Emanuel, Marshall Haning, Mark McCallister, Megan Leroy, Michael Bumbach, Nico Cellinese, Charley Widmer, Eric Porges, Juan Claudio Nino, PJ Brucat, Laurie Bialosky, Randell Doty, Sean Davis, Stacey Ewing, Bojan Lazarevic, Alex Fox-Alvarez, and Herbert Lowe.

1. **Call to order** – Raymond Issa, Chair, University Information Technology Committee
- The meeting was called to order by Chair Issa at 9:31 a.m.

2. **Approval of 29 March 2021 Minutes**
- The minutes were approved.

3. **Administrative Liaison Report** – Mark McCallister, Director of Academic Technology
 - **Skype for Business Deprecation**
- Mark McCallister screen-shared information from <https://news.it.ufl.edu/infrastructure/prepare-for-skype-deprecation-by-reviewing-collaboration-options/> about Microsoft not supporting Skype for Business. Please share this information with your colleagues.

 - **MyLA Student-Focused Analytics Program**
- UFIT participates in a monthly meeting with peer institutions to discuss and share information about various learning products. UF will deploy a new tool called My Learning Analytics (MyLA) which is hosted by Unizin.
MYLA is a student-oriented product providing visualization for students when setting goals and reviewing their academic and class performance and activities. Students will be able to identify how they are doing individually in a class as compared to the overall class, or how they are utilizing resources in a Canvas course. The product can assist students with establishing a minimum

goal and grade for themselves.

- This feature can be enabled by an instructor within individual Canvas courses.

- Mark McCallister provided a brief product demonstration.

Discussion points included:

- This may be helpful for some courses but not for all.

- The committee discussed concerns about the tool being opt-in and if this student-facing tool could be a research or instructional design tool.

- Tool functions were discussed. Is the quantity of views proportional to the value of a learner (i.e. are there numerous 'clicks' because a concept is confusing or because it is fun, etc.)

- Student self-supervised learning and machine learning were discussed.

- The tool's assignment planning function was discussed. Could students view this as an algebraic tool to game the grading system? Is there potential for students to simply try to maximize a 'point to effort' ratio and would this discourage 'mastery grading' and de-emphasize 'best learning' criteria? Is there a sociological problem of grade distribution and grade curving?

- A clear goal should be defined. Is this making a quantitative process out of a qualitative process? For example, faculty in professional schools need to ensure students can take care of their patients, so faculty may care less about grades than subject mastery. However, this tool can still be useful to students.

- A takeaway is the importance of splitting up the functionality of tools on a granular level to ensure that faculty can use tools as needed and as best fits their students, courses, and goals.

- The committee agreed that while it is important to ensure numbers are correctly interpreted, making the tool available to preview and work with is appreciated and welcome.

- Mark will put some additional web demos up and, for those interested, will provide tailored demonstrations.

- UFIT will continue to work with UF peer institutions and final feedback and research results are expected this fall.

- This is a pilot and is a peer-institution collaboration; please forward more ideas and/or concerns to Mark.

4. Other Business

- Joe Souza was not able to attend today's meeting to provide an update on physical security. He will be invited to a future committee meeting.

- In September, Provost Glover commissioned Andy McCollough, Associate Provost for Teaching and Technology, to address the problems associated with Online Learning Assessment and Academic Integrity and to recommend solutions. The Faculty Senate Secretary will forward the committee the Academic Integrity

presentation link from the January 21, 2021 Faculty Senate meeting (which is accessible @: 1:15:12 @:

<https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/35eade20fcdf4b999786bd338cbca8b11d?catalog=8456cbab10b449868436ee51ddb84dc421.>)

- This group has been meeting throughout the academic year to make general recommendations and establish an awareness campaign to show what happens to students that cheat across platforms and how faculty can deter the cheating.
- Overall grade shifts are not being seen.
- The committee discussed combatting cheating by ensuring academic policies are in place to ensure that there are consequences for cheating.
- The College of Journalism and Communications has engaged in fact-finding on this topic, including the issue of students selling exam answers. Faculty have reported the problem to the Registrar to identify the site(s) and concerns. The Registrar provided feedback to the college. UF is trying to ascertain how rampant of a problem this is, and it was also noted that this would be a conversation in which to include the Dean of Students in the Office of Student Affairs.
- Is it possible to scour Course Hero for UF information? Are faculty aware that students are able to do this, and is there a way the committee can help alert the faculty to and advise faculty on this matter?
- Faculty challenges surrounding Group meet and Group sharing, and exam cheating were discussed.
- It was suggested that the General Counsel's Office be consulted to explore options to go after some of the companies (sites) that are hosting exam questions. Since exam questions would likely fall under intellectual property of the faculty, would it be possible for a cease and desist letter to be sent to offending sites which host such course materials?

- There was an inquiry about the most recent update to macOS Big Sur, which has disabled the user option. Follow-up is needed, as local units are unable to change it to make it accessible.

- Catch box is being used to capture class audio and feedback has been positive.

- There was an inquiry regarding how long the lectures on Zoom are going to be available and accessible. UFIT is currently internally discussing options regarding Zoom lectures' retention. Some lectures will never be viewed again so paying Zoom to retain all lectures may not be practical. Faculty should navigate to Zoom interface and download lectures, while being cautious that grades or student identities, etc. are not inadvertently captured and/or posted. Information outside of the context of the course cannot be used, unless the student has provided permission. Modified form exists to garner such permission and Mark will see if such a link is available somewhere. Faculty should not consider Zoom cloud recordings as being permanently archived.

- License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology was briefly discussed in reference to a College of Journalism and Communications news story being published today. Alachua County is spending about two million dollars on this technology, which most recently helped identify the BMW involved in the fatal hit and run crash of a UF Student.

5. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.