

Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology (FACT) 2016-17 Annual Report

The purpose of the Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology (FACT) is to advise the University bodies involved in planning, development, implementation, and application of technology campus wide, including, but not limited to, Academic Technology Services (ATS), Information Technology Services (ITS), the College of Continuing and Professional Education (CCPE), and the University Library on faculty and student issues related to academic technology. The Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology shall also assist in the communication and collaboration between, and among, various constituencies and communities of technology users. The Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology reports to the Academic Senate.

FACT met its charge during AY 2016-17. The main accomplishment of the committee over seven meetings was reviewing and updating the existing campus policy from 2003 regarding online and other modes of instruction at CSULB. This required extensive background research on existing policies at CSULB and other universities, current recommended best practices, and WASC distance education evaluation guidelines. We now have a working draft of a new policy and plan to align it with other relevant policies and present it to the Academic Senate for discussion in 2017-18.

We also spent several meetings discussing a draft document created by Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Min Yao, assessing the current state of campus technology services and proposing recommendations for improvements. The committee produced a memo for the Academic Senate Executive Committee, President, Provost, and CIO commenting on the proposal.

Other accomplishments include:

- Discussing how department-level policies might promote consistent high quality online course design and delivery; based on meetings with Wendy Reiboldt and Casey Goeller from Family and Consumer Sciences, who are already developing policies that could serve as a model for other departments
- Working closely with the AVP for Academic Technology, Shawna Dark, on various aspects of academic technology, including how the mission and vision of ATS can best align with campus goals and priorities
- Providing feedback to ATS on the new implementation of the campus Learning Management System, BeachBoard
- Identifying potentially useful academic technology and discussing how to make it more visible to faculty on campus; e.g., the mobile app “D2L grader” that can be used on a tablet computer to annotate documents uploaded to Dropbox in BeachBoard

Respectfully submitted,

Bengt Allen
Chair, Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology