



## **Academic Affairs Committee Minutes**

February 9, 2024

McCandless Hall Conference Room 300

Present: Bill Dunnivant, Christi Blaylock, Russ Johnson, Bridgette Walker, Steve Wang, Derek Newland, Morgan Stanford, Lee Vartanian, Molly Myhan (Recorder)

Absent: Cathy Dickens, Toni Bailey

Guests: Dave Ragsdale, Troy Adair, Katie Holm, Janet Willison, Toni Carter, Jennifer Wolfe, Mark Gale, Mary Aquila, Cindy Lovelace, Lynn Frank, Kim Roberts, Kem Roper, Katia Maxwell, Joe Chandler, Darren Waldrep, Felicia Mucci, Belinda Krigel

- I. Meeting called to order by Mr. Dunnivant: 1:14 p.m.
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes (October 20, 2023)
  - Motion to approve: Russ Johnson
  - Second: Bridgette Walker
  - All approved with no changes
- IV. New Business
  - Ensuring Teaching Quality – Faculty Promotion Rubric Redesign
    - Upon the request of the Faculty Senate, a Task Force was created to formulate a new Promotion Rubric to provide more clarity regarding quality teaching and scholarly works.
    - The Task Force is comprised of faculty, with the support of staff, working to enhance quality teaching.
    - Working with tool only, not the policy
    - Deadline for completed work – March 15th
  - Status of the new Learning Management System – Canvas
    - Learning Management System changed from Blackboard Learn to Canvas.
    - IT offered training for faculty in multiple modalities and open labs with Instructional Designers.

- Canvas clips were provided as additional resources.
  - All courses to be Canvas-ready by July 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Blackboard contract expiration: July 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Benefits
    - Functionality is more intuitive
    - Faculty experience enhanced course development and design, as well as engaging strategies.
    - Students find that the courses are more engaging and navigation is easier.
  - The success of the Canvas implementation is owed to Drs. Wehlburg and Vartanian, the ATLIS Team, Faculty and IT.
- Teaching with AI
- Kem Roper, Writing Center Director, state that resources are being shared among writing centers regarding Chat GPT:
    - podcasts
    - ATLIS Canvas Clips
    - AI Webinars
  - Toni Carter, Library Director, stated that a request from the Faculty Senate to create an AI Policy led to the creation of a Task Force. The research has been done for the policy, but there is much more to be learned. The Task force made the following suggestions:
    - the Learning Resource Committee continue with the work
    - a statement regarding the use of AI be provided in all course syllabi
  - A Fireside Chat was held in the Chapel regarding AI. It gave both a philosophical and technological point of view to AI.
  - A pilot group of faculty will be participating in AI training through Auburn University.

V. Adjournment (Chairperson): 1:59 pm