

To: Information Technology and Policy Committee (ITPC)

CC: Troy Bassett, Chair of Academic Computing and Information Technology Advisory Sub-Committee (ACITAS)

From: Gail Rathbun, Chair, Instructional Technology Coordinating Committee (ITCO)

Date: 5/22/2013

Re: Annual Report from ITCO

ITCO Accomplishments for 2012-13

- ACITAS and ITCO continued to meet as one group. ITCO provided encouragement and input—solicited by ACITAS -- into the revision of the ACITAS charter and supplied person power and suggestions for the Blackboard Evaluation project now being led by ACITAS. By meeting jointly over a period of two years, ITCO came to understand the continuing need for a voice to champion instructional technology amidst an array of institutional technologies designated for other purposes. ITCO decided that it should continue to meet so that it could effectively play its role of instructional technology “prod.” There is no other unit, except perhaps for CELT, which foregrounds instructional technology in its mission.
- Updated FAQ web site to reflect changes in handling of video, iPad initiative, online teaching, among other changes. Reports and minutes covering 2007-2012 are available at ipfw.edu/itco.
- ITCO provided input into IT Services strategic plan, revising and elaborating on the input provided in 2009

Future Role

Near-term and mid-term items from the 2013 Horizon Report include MOOCs, tablet computing, gamification, and learner analytics. ITCO faculty and staff members should take the lead in researching and demonstrating to faculty how these technologies support teaching and learning.

ITCO ought to take a leadership role in helping to create an environment conducive to faculty experimentation with new technologies. The iPad project model of implementation could be used. Faculty who had an idea for the iPad received the iPad and met in groups to experiment. The combination of a low entry price (eg \$500 for a wi-fi equipped iPad) and the availability of a funding level that would support purchase of a significant number of units also contributed to a successful initiative. ITCO could identify funding opportunities to support further experimentation with an innovative technology, be it software or hardware. Support and encouragement for e-textbook authoring is one suggestion. Grants could be made to faculty members to support expenses associated with publishing an etext.

Possible funding sources include internal IU or Purdue grants, Community of Science (COS), Educause.