

William Paterson University
Faculty Senate Technology Council Meeting

Minutes

October 9th, 2020

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Location: Zoom Meeting

Committee members present: Gamin Bartle, Sonja Bierbower, Megan Chesin (Co-Chair), Matthew Finn, Tao Guo (Co-Chair), Housen Maratouk, Pei-Lin Weng (Minutes)

Committee members absent: Kelly Ruffel

Other present: Danielle Wallace (Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate; 01:00 pm – 01:24 pm)

- Acceptance of Agenda
- Approval of minutes from November meeting and will be saved to Blackboard
- Discussion/Action Items
 - Attending remembers and Vice Chair of Faculty Senate brief introducing themselves
 - Vice-chair's announced the council's 2020-2021 charges based on the council's final report. Vice Chair reiterated the importance of OER for students and faculty under the current situation (i.e., remote/hybrid learning due to the pandemic).
 - Q&A regarding 2020-2021 charges:

During the discussion, Gamin explained the differences digital literacy to digital fluency between suggestion to change digital literacy to digital fluency. Vice-Chair and all the committee members unanimously agreed.

Ray would like to reach out to OER ad-hoc committee/task force and would like clarification from Vice Chair on open source resources (e.g., a catch all term or specific resources). Vice Chair explained that OER ad-hoc committee/task force (as a temporary committee) was put together by the faculty senate two to three years ago to test available OER options. She will reach out to Robert Harris for any reports on the matter and will forward to the council if there is a report.

Ray raised questions about the charge, "Continue to monitor progress on WP Online". Vice Chair suggested the council could decide what this charge looks like. Tao also asked about the objectives for the council, especially when there were some overlapping University-level committees. Vice Chair explained this council will focus more on policy-specific issues, and how the university should move forward regarding technology. She will come back for more clarification.

Vice Chair mentioned some councils would submit proposals to the senate for discussion.

Tech Council's 2020-2021 charges

- *Explore possible collaboration with other councils and committees to identify and provide faculty with the resources for remote and in-person teaching and research.*
 - *Continue to monitor progress on WP Online as it continues to add programs over time.*
 - *Work with TAC, the Council will discuss ways IRT can assist faculty with creating quality undergraduate and graduate online programs based on Quality Matters principles.*
 - *Continue to promote awareness of digital literacy fluency.*
 - *Promote use of existing software and implementation of open source resources by faculty and students. Work with OER ad-hoc committee/task force to implement university-wide usage of and transition to OER for courses.*
- Brainstorm initiatives in response to new charges: Tao suggested forming sub-committees or working groups to pursue topics of interest. Ray agreed and use Jupyter OER as an example (e.g., Tao & Ray).

The committee discussed the charge, “Continue to monitor progress on WP Online”, as currently the committee had a more passive role in the process (e.g., Gamin informed the committee on WP online during month meetings). The committee will continue the current mode and will only take a more active role if needed in the future.

Gamin will create a synergy between the committee and TAC and will be leading the Charges #2, #3, and #5. Committee members will be a liaison between the council and their own colleges or departments.

For Charge #1, Tao will share a list of available programs and online resources that he generated last semester.

- Other new item for discussion
- Ray shared and showed a library 24/7 live service such as “Chat” to help students and faculty. He was asking if these features would be helpful in Blackboard. Megan suggested to make an announcement about the service. Tao suggested placing the feature in a menu under Blackboard.

Ray (along with Tao) will move forward with a presentation on Jupyter in December.

- Adjournment