

MINUTES OF FACULTY SENATE LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Date: November 21, 2016

Location: 650 Hodges Library

Attending: **Holly Greene** (Chair), Adam Alsamadisi, Brian Ambroziak, Beverly Banks, **Teresa Berry**, **Marianne Breinig**, Heather Hartman, Laura Miller, Vandana Singh, **Robert Spirko**, Sarah Huff Vassallo, Forbes Walker [**bold indicates present**]

Attending, ex officio: Jean Derco, Bonnie Ownley, **Joel Reeves (via Zoom)**, **Holly Mercer** (for Steve Smith) Steve Smith [**bold indicates present**]

Guests: Rachel Caldwell

Minutes by: Janet D. Miles, OIT

Agenda	Description	Follow-up
Approval of Minutes	No quorum	
Old Business	None	
New Business		
Blackboard to Canvas Conversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OIT has migrated about 400 courses for Fall 2016 with no data loss • Canvas has imported about 12,000 course files for AY 2015-16 and AY 2016-17 that will be available for migrations. OIT is spot-checking those courses, and recommends that faculty also check their course sites. • Test questions with calculations and algorithms appear to have migrated successfully, but faculty should check their course sites. 	
Open Educational Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Educational Resources (OER) may include worksheets, assignments, lectures, lecture notes, images and videos, textbooks, problem sets, sample exams, syllabi, and tutorials. • OER focus on high-enrollment introductory classes. • OER are licensed to share, reuse, and remix (usually under Creative Commons license). • MIT has had OpenCourseWare (https://ocw.mit.edu/index.htm) for about 15 years; mostly General Education and fundamentals. OpenCourseWare uses a Creative Commons license. • Other OER repositories include MERLOT (https://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm) and OER Commons (https://www.oercommons.org/). • EDUCAUSE created a site for Open Educational Resources (https://library.educause.edu/topics/teaching-and-learning/open-educational-resources-oer), including a paper on "7 Things You Should Know About Open Textbook Publishing" [PDF] (http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI7061.pdf). Bringing OER to faculty awareness is part of what the Libraries are working on. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UT is a member of the Open Textbook Network (http://research.cehd.umn.edu/otn/). OTN lets faculty network with other universities and gives access to a wide range of open textbooks. See also Open Textbook Library (https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/). • Libraries will be hosting a workshop with OTN staff on April 19, 2017, with a \$200 stipend for attendees. 	
Why use OER?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennessee Code §49-7-141 (2007) requires that <i>“Faculty members consider the least costly practices in assigning textbooks and course materials ...”</i> • There is student government support, including an award for faculty. • Open course materials are more affordable for students, which can lead to improved success. (Following information is from Student PIRGS (Public Interest Research Groups) (http://studentpirgs.org/campaigns/sp/make-textbooks-affordable).) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Textbook prices have increased by 82% in the past 10 years. ○ 65% of students have chosen not to purchase textbooks because of their cost. ○ Nearly half of students say that the cost of textbooks affects which classes they take. • Open-source textbooks can be downloaded for free. Some university bookstores provide the option for students to have open-source textbooks printed and bound for a nominal cost (around \$25-\$30). • Many open-source textbook catalogs and open-source textbooks include links to additional instructor and student resources. • Faculty can choose to use all or any part(s) of open-source materials. • Not all subjects, and not all classes within a subject, have open-source textbooks available. 	
Why the Libraries?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing widely used course-reserves service. • Key partner in student success. • Online journal market which might be similar to eTextbooks? • Information available as a LibGuide (http://libguides.utk.edu/opentextbooks/) or by emailing Rachel Caldwell (rachaelcaldwell@utk.edu). 	
Summary of Risks and Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits for students and families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They save money ○ They have ready access to supplemental learning materials ○ Access to course materials leads to student success 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits for faculty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More options ○ Flexibility and ability to tailor materials ○ Student appreciation ○ Compliance with Tennessee law ○ Help students success • Risks for faculty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wide range of quality and development ○ Not all OER are developed for, or ready to integrate into, Blackboard or Canvas ○ Possible loss of revenue for faculty who are textbook authors ○ There is not yet consistent vetting of materials and authors (although OTN and Open Textbook Library can help with this) • Savings in just one class (Physics), for AY 2015-16: \$16,000 	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of one faculty member’s path to choosing OER, including evaluating options and testing different materials. • Discussion of dealing with publisher content for traditional textbooks, such as additional online resources linked to from OER. • Discussion of how to move from traditional to OER, including lead time (essentially same as when choosing any new textbook), material evaluation, and integration into the LMS. • Discussion of resources available, including Open Textbook Library, MERLOT, and OER Commons. • Discussion of links within OER textbooks to other OER resources. • Discussion of assistance available at UT: see links under “Why the Libraries?” Caldwell also available to present to departments regarding OER and OER development. • Discussion of possible effects on traditional publishers and on bookstores. Berry notes that • Publishers will not sell eTexts to libraries; the few who will want 10x the prices. 	
Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greene: Requests that people send suggestions for future topics. 	
Meeting Adjourned		