

Distance Education and Educational Technology Committee  
UPDATE  
Tuesday, May 10, 2016

**Committee Membership:** Tania Beliz, Diana Bennett, Yoseph Demissie, Jaqueline Gamelin, Steven Lehigh, Joe Mangan, Jaime Marron, Theresa Martin, Lee Miller, Rosemary Nurre, Annette Perrot, Erica Reynolds, Chris Smith, Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza, Jasmine Witham, Jing Wu, Jielin Yu (student representative)

**Co-chairs:** Jasmine Witham and Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza

**Updates for:**

- DEAC Meeting
  - A demonstration on the functionality of Softchalk was provided by the vendor. Softchalk is a digital curriculum authoring solution that combines content authoring, learning object repository, hosting, and management features. Concerns were raised around the accessibility of some interactive features, lack of responsive design, and storage of student grades and information on the Softcloud server. Jaz requested a comparison of features and benefits between Canvas and Softchalk.
  - It was decided that Canvas will add a district header for the interface that will include the branding for all 3 colleges. Jaz will ask Canvas if it is possible to designate a specific, campus color to the course cards to help identify where the course is being taught.
  - The position for the Accessibility Specialist has been approved.
- Summer/Fall Canvas Pilot
  - The Summer and Fall pilot volunteers were surveyed to see what third-party tools they are currently using or would like to use with Canvas.
  - Summer course shells and sandbox environments have been activated for the 6 faculty volunteers. Student accounts in the Summer pilot courses should be ready by the first day of the Summer term.
  - 13 faculty volunteers have been confirmed for the Fall Canvas pilot. The sandbox course shells will be activated after the Fall Canvas Pilot Kick-Off meeting that will be scheduled during the week of May 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Fall volunteers will receive 2 paid, professional development days in June and 1 paid, professional development day in August.
  - 6 Canvas professional development opportunities are being offered in May and are open to all CSM faculty and staff. Additional opportunities will be offered throughout Fall 2016 and Spring 2017.

**Agenda for Next Meeting:**

- Select Faculty Co-Chair for DEETC

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, September 6th, 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.