

SUNY New Paltz Educational Technology Committee
Minutes for the meeting of 02/10/09

Present: Becky Adae (co-chair), Susan DeMaio (co-chair), Paul Zuckerman, Rachel Rigolino, Orkunt Dalgic, Dan Werner, Jonathan Lewit (guest)

- Meeting called to order at 1:40 pm
- The minutes for December 5, 2008, were approved with no corrections or additions.
- It was mentioned that a Blackboard survey was being planned and that it was already (possibly) posted on Blackboard. Our survey would therefore be redundant.
- Jon suggested the CCET consider the goal of the proposed educational technology survey, and that targeted surveys leading to specific recommendations for action were preferable.
- Susan talked about obtaining the results of the Blackboard Humanities 2nd Floor Classrooms survey from IRB.
- Susan mentioned the availability of iTunes Ipod connectivity in smart classrooms for viewing the free videos available there for teaching.

Two issues raised by Jon:

- A suggestion to the CCET to consider looking into alternatives to Blackboard in order to reduce costs (up to \$100K per year)
- Issue of waste elimination in student printing (i.e. print quotas)

As regards the first issue, Jon suggested the 'Angel' and 'Sakai' systems as potential replacements for Blackboard. Angel is approximately half the cost of Blackboard (per year) and Sakai is open architecture and is therefore theoretically free, but has annual support costs of around \$30K. It was tentatively agreed that the CCET members become sufficiently informed about these alternative systems, their pros and cons, and (dis)similarities with Blackboard before faculty and staff would be engaged in the process of possibly replacing Blackboard. SUNY Oneonta use Angel, and Paul expressed an interest in, among other options, visiting the Oneonta campus to learn about this system. Rachel said she would find out which schools in the area currently use Sakai. Susan also mentioned she will try to contact people familiar with the use of both Blackboard and Angel.

With regard to Jon's second issue (above), Paul stated that Jon is more knowledgeable than the committee about the exact details of issue regarding the print problem and that he (Jon) is therefore better able to find an appropriate solution.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 24th at 1:30 pm, location to be announced. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Orkunt Dalgic (Business)