University of Miami
Academic Computing Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Richter Library – 3rd Floor Conference Room
Monday, September 28, 2015
4:00-5:00 p.m.

Attendees: *Charles Eckman, Serona Elton, Cheryl Gowing, Allan Gyorke, Mary McKay, Marilyn Neff, Mitsu Ogihara, Burton Rosenberg, Andres Sawicki, Dacia Simpson, Sigman Splichal and Sally Wise.*

AGENDA
Welcome and Self-Introductions of New Committee Members: *Charles Eckman*
It was noted that Committee member Dean Lynch from the Law School has stepped down. The Faculty Senate is in the process of finding his replacement. Self-introductions followed.

Approval of May Minutes:
Minutes were not taken at the last ACAC meeting held on May 18. It was unclear whether the minutes from the April 27, meeting were approved at the May meeting. Thus, this item will be reviewed at the upcoming meeting slated for October 26.

Announcements – Meeting Schedule Update/Discussion:
It was agreed that the meetings during the fall semester will be held Monday afternoons from 4-5 p.m., at Richter Library. It was noted that the meeting times may change for the upcoming spring semester.

Learning Management System Review: *Allan Gyorke*
Learning Management System meets bi-yearly to ensure the University of Miami is on the best platform. The next review is scheduled for 2015. The LMS Committee has recommended that a faculty-driven decision be made on whether to keep Blackboard for several more years or replace it. The academic sector are the majority of Blackboard users (63% of sections with more than 4 users). ACAC members were asked to conduct a faculty survey to garner the pros / cons of Blackboard. Based on those results, a full recommendation will be presented to the Faculty Senate.

A callout was made for ACAC members to assist with the survey and benchmark the results. Several members volunteered. Discussion ensued.

Learning Commons: *Kelly Miller, Associate Dean for Learning & Research Services, UM Libraries*
Kelly described the goal of the Learning Commons project: to make key educational services centrally and conveniently available to the entire UM community by offering them together on the first floor of Richter Library. Campus partners include the Academic Resource Center, the Writing Center, Academic Technologies, and the Math Lab. The Steering Committee includes the Deans of the Libraries, College of Arts and Sciences, and Undergraduate Education, as well as the VP for Academic Technologies. The UM Libraries are working with a strategy firm called Brightspot to facilitate a participatory planning process that includes visioning and user research. The anticipated opening of the Learning Commons is fall 2016.

A temporary space for experimentation and piloting has been created on the first floor this year. Academic Technologies is partnering with the Libraries to include technology in the space. It's called the "Visioning Studio," and it can be found in the back left corner of the first floor. The Academic Resource Center is offering consultations there on weekday evenings on a pilot basis. Kelly mentioned a few opportunities related to the use of technology in the Learning Commons, including: modeling 21st-c learning & teaching (flexible, hybrid, collaborative), creating a digital presence for the Learning Commons, integrating technology well with anticipated types of spaces to be developed, such as group study rooms and active-learning workshop environments. For more on the project, see: http://library.miami.edu/learningcommons.

Meeting Adjournment:
The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m. The group departed to the first floor for a tour of the Learning Commons lead by Kelly Miller.

Action items for discussion at the next meeting:
- School/campus licensing for research software
- Create an ongoing listserv of current student emails (grad and undergrad)
- Status of the task force recommendations for online education

Upcoming/Continuing Topics:
- Data curation
- Classroom of the future
- Online education initiatives
- Streaming for the University
- Website for the University
- Security
- Privacy

Minutes submitted by Elizabeth del Campo.