

Academic Computing Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Miami Business School – Executive Conference Room

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

12:30-1:30 pm

Attendees: Orlando Acevedo, Chuck Eckman, Serona Elton, Moataz Eltoukhy, Cheryl Gowing, Allan Gyorke, Karen Mathews, Mary McKay, Tom Robinson, Mei-Ling Shyu, Dacia Simpson, Sigman Splichal and Tally Yunes.

Guest: Jeffrey Duerk, Executive Vice President and Provost

AGENDA

Welcome

Chuck Eckman welcomed the group.

Approval of the January Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on January 30, 2019 were approved without modifications.

Announcements / Updates

Faculty Research Commons:

Dean Eckman reported that [brightspot strategy](#) is finalizing the results from the recent faculty focus groups. Cheryl Gowing noted that brightspot met with the Faculty Advisory Group yesterday and have shifted their focus from the first planning workshop in late January. Using the information gathered throughout the engagements with various stakeholders, brightspot and UML will explore future scenarios for the Research Commons to arrive at a more comprehensive understanding of which services are provided, and how they are integrated into the space. Kelly Miller will share brightspots' findings at an upcoming ACAC meeting.

UM Cane ID Password Reset Frequency:

Allan Gyorke noted that changing password frequency is no longer a standard industry practice. The current guidance is having a pass phrase – a random set of words that mean something to you, not to anyone else, thus, making it harder to crack than a shorter password. Since some people prefer shorter passwords and some devices / systems do not accept longer passwords or pass phrases, UMIT is working on two options: stay with the old password format and change it every six months or opt into the pass phrase, which does not need to be changed. Also under consideration is the [Titan Security Key](#), as a second factor. More details are forthcoming.

Brad Roher, deputy chief information officer and associate vice president for Infrastructure and Operations (or a representative) has been invited to attend an ACAC meeting to discuss the increase frequency of spoof messages we have been receiving, specifically from Gmail accounts.

Research Information Management Systems (RIMS) Task Force

Dean Eckman distributed the [RIMS](#) Task Force Charge and a spreadsheet listing University's Research Information Management Systems Market and Licenses. He noted that while reporting to Provost Duerk on the Libraries [Esploro](#) initiative, the Provost reviewed UM's RIMS licensed products and suggested that a focus group would be the right path moving forward to review the current state of the University's Research Information Management Systems, identify product owners/stakeholders, and

make recommendations regarding current needs and preferred investments. Under the leadership of Dr. John Bixby, vice provost for Research, the Task Force members include:

- RESEARCH John Bixby
- ULINK Susan Morgan
- PIRA David Becher
- ORA Barbara Cole
- UMIT Ernie Fernandez
- MEDICAL Research IT Stephen DeGennaro
- MEDICAL Faculty Affairs Danny Armstrong
- LIBRARIES Chuck Eckman

The kickoff meeting is scheduled for March 26. As this moves forward, reports will be provided to the Committee. Discussion ensued. RIMS Charge and UM's RIMS Market and Licenses overview is available for review on the [ACAC webpage](#).

Lecture Capture Task Force

Lecture Capture is an initiative by Provost Duerk, intended to develop a plan for continual learning should the University experience an extended campus closure due to a natural disaster or other emergency. The Provost entrusted the ACAC group to put together an actionable plan by April 2019. As co-chair of the Lecture Capture Task Force, Karen Mathews reported that the demographic data she gathered indicated the UM has many international students; out of state; and a variety of students living on and off campus that presents a challenge trying to reach them in case of an emergency.

One of the main concerns is that a considerable portion of students would flee, in particular those without family in Florida or no roots in the community. She has learned that data from UM's two-week campus closure due to Hurricane Irma is almost nonexistent, including data from Law and Medical. Medical being the most challenging, due to departments that could potentially be clinical and research, as opposed to a teaching unit. Professor Mathews has discovered UM's emergency preparedness link, [UReady](#), which she will explore and research as a viable source. Plans are also underway to meet with senior administrators from Student Affairs, Risk Management, Emergency Management, and the Office of International Students and International Education.

In addition, the Task Force has sent approximately 90 letters/emails to departments, chairs, administrators and various units asking what practices and/or procedures were implemented within their units as a result of the Hurricane - responses are expected by March 8. The Task Force will prepare a report on infrastructure and logistics of a campus closure to ACAC at the next meeting scheduled for March 27, with final results by April 24. Discussion ensued.

Provost Jeffrey Duerk: Meet and Greet

Provost Duerk thanked the group for serving on the Committee. He noted that their valuable insight in academic computing is not just about providing the right software environment for our students, but it is also about the online and computing resources we need as a University.

He noted that [EAB](#), a subscription model that allows us to see what other universities are doing in terms of best practices, costs us approximately \$200K a year to run a report. Noting that having Academic Analytics at UM is a huge investment for us. It generates reports on departments; schools/colleges; and individual faculty research, scholarly productivity and accomplishments that helps us to understand where we are as an institution, our departments, and our faculty. There are other digital measuring

tools, such as Esploro, that helps faculty aggregate and report their scholarly activities – many of which have similar functions or overlap, hence, the important role of the RIMS Task Force.

He informed that group that it would be very helpful for him as the Provost, and for the University, to get guidance from ACAC. To look at digital measures, review our resources and give him critical feedback and advice. The Provost reported that one of the greatest responsibilities he has, along with his colleagues Jackie Travisano, executive vice president for Business and Finance and COO, and Edward Abraham, president for Health Affairs and CEO of UHealth, is to create the University's budget (academics, operations, health systems) which should reflect UM's priorities, thus, the advice he anticipates from the ACAC group will be taken into consideration and ultimately be reflected in those priorities.

Provost Duerk concluded with Lecture Capture, stating that one of the ways UM can commence operations after an extended closure is by having a collection of pedagogical tools, core courses, gateway bottleneck courses, etc., that we can build on to serve the masses, give a sense of continuity and a real demonstration of our commitment to service our students. He also noted that it's not just closing campus for an extended period, it's also about servicing a student faced with an illness that might keep him/her off campus for weeks. Discussion ensued.

Meeting Adjournment

With no further discussions / Q&A, the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Upcoming Agenda Items:

- UM CaneID password reset frequency
- Streaming for the University
- Faculty Research Commons
- Taking attendance electronically (ongoing, A. Gyorke, lead)
- Task Force on Online Education, part 2 (guest: Bill Green)
- Learning Platform: Microsoft 365 – awareness of features (A. Gyorke, lead)
- Tour of [Thomas P. Murphy Design Studio Building](#) SoA (January 2019)
- Tour of Toppel student interview recording studio