

ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

END OF THE YEAR REPORT- 2020 - 2021

MEMBERSHIP	
Reza Boroon	Committee Chair, Academic Technology
John Price	Dean, Graduate Studies
Marisela R. Chavez	Faculty Development Center
Salvatore Russo	Faculty Senate
Wei Ma	Library
Maria Grandone	University Advancement
Steve Williams	Academic Technology, TV & Media Production
Juliamin Kawibowo	College of Business Administration and Public Policy (CBAPP)
Amlan Chatterjee	College of Natural & Behavioral Sciences (CNBS)
Conrad Oh Young	College of Education (COE)
Arvin Lambinico	College of Extended & International Education (CEIE)
Cathy Andrade	College of Health, Human Services, and Nursing (CHHSN)
Alireza Izaddoost	Computer Science Department (NBS)
Leo Martinez	Acting Associate Dean, College of Natural & Behavioral Sciences
Cara Furman	Training & Documentation, Information Technology
Katherine Molina	Student Representative
Ahmillyon Marin	Student Representative

MEETINGS

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| • 9/09/2020 | • 11/4/2020 |
| • 10/2/2020 | • 12/9/2020 |
| • 2/17/2021 | • 3/17/2021 |
| • 4/14/2021 | • 5/5/2021 |

TOPICS OF DISCUSSIONS:

- Evaluating and Reviewing a Campus-Wide Video platform Solution (ShareStream, Panopto and YuJa)
- Instructional Materials Accessibility
- Learning Management System, Blackboard Ultra Migration Update
- Evaluating and Reviewing Two Instructional Technology Tools (EesySoft and Grammarly, Education Package)

CAMPUS-WIDE VIDEO PLATFORM SOLUTION

We have been using TechSmith Knowmia (Formerly Relay) for the past 12 years. This spring TechSmith announced that they have made the decision to phase out of the enterprise education video hosting business. Therefore, Academic Technology Committee started to review and evaluate a few video/lecture capture platforms in spring 2021. TechSmith Knowmia will be available to DH community till July 2022. **The committee will make a recommendation in fall 2021.**

Panopto

Panopto is a video/lecture capture platform that provides lecture recording, screencasting, video streaming, and video content management software, which is used in E-learning environments.

Pros:

- User Interface and Design
- Intuitive: ease of use and accessibility is important for all users
- The Analytics feature is very strong
- In-line quizzing feature
- Automatic Captioning
- LMS & ZOOM integration

Cons:

- Pricing
- Backend management

Yuja

Yuja is a reliable media creation and cloud-based host full of advanced features, including responsive design, accessibility, content delivery analytics and in-line video quizzing and keyword indexing.

Pros:

- Media creation and user interface is intuitive and extremely easy for faculty and staff to learn
- Seamless LMS, YouTube and ZOOM integration
- Responsive and accessible, including auto-captioning of video content
- In-line video quizzing
- Robust analytics tool
- Automatic Captioning

Cons:

- No Cons.

ShareStream

ShareStream is an online video and media management solutions for education and professional development. The ShareStream Video Platform fulfills rising demand from educational institutions for integrating video-hosting and streaming-media services into instructional technology, the library, distance learning, and campus communications.

Pros:

- Easy to use
- Small Company
- LMS integration
- CSU System-Wide contract

Cons:

- No recorder software
- No quizzing feature

ATI ANNUAL REPORT & INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ACCESSIBILITY

Blackboard Ally

CSUDH continues to be number 1 among CSU campuses in Ally usage and adoption. Blackboard Ally is a tool that works within the Learning Management System to make learning materials more accessible. Popular features include PDF remediation, so that scanned PDF documents can be read by screen reader software and the alternative format options, which can deliver learning materials in multiple ways to suit a student's preferred learning modality. Both faculty and students at CSUDH have recognized the value of Ally, which can be seen in our campus' increased utilization of this tool.

Stephen (Alex) Marositz Campus ATI Coordinator with some thoughts on instructional technology tools and the review process:

- I suggest that in the next year, the campus Academic Technology Committee develop and document processes to address the adoption and procurement of compliant instructional materials. I say the Academic Technology Committee because DH reports that the Academic Technology committee is charged with Instructional Materials Accessibility in the ATI annual report (ATI IM Goal 9). IT is developing a procurement process based on the ATI pre-purchase request form, VPAT review, manual accessibility testing/product demonstration and equally effective alternate access planning. All ICT that is intended for instruction needs to follow a similar process, including those purchased through the bookstore. And when barriers are discovered have a way to address them before the adoption and their use in the classroom.
- All faculty using the non-conformant ICT must be aware of the barriers and contribute to the alternate access plan upon request in the event they have a student with a disability enrolled in their class, even when students are not identified by the Student Disability Resource Center (remember, IT is not responsible for addressing accommodations).
- Some instructional materials cannot be remediated and must be prepared in an alternative format as an individualized accommodation. This means that they must be adopted and published early so that students with disabilities can identify them and notify the Student Disability resource Center, even in cases where there are late hired faculty.

I also think it is important to understand however that some more modern emerging instructional materials simply cannot be remediated. E.G. peer-to-peer engagement tools, VR, AR, and the like. Early adoption and relying on SDRC is not the solution. That is why it is imperative that a process for adoption and procurement is. Even in cases where modern technologies are not being used, publishers are becoming resistant to alterations made to their publications for infringement reasons. We are fortunate that in California, we have [Section 67302](#) of the California Education Code but notice that

that state law only applies to printed textbooks, not digital ones so the Immediate Access program is subject to section 508.

BLACKBOARD ULTRA MIGRATION

In our first fall 2020 meeting, the Academic Technology Steering Committee reviewed and discussed the proposed migration to Blackboard Ultra timeline and agreed to move forward.

On August 17, 2020, we updated Blackboard Learn to incorporate the new Ultra Base Navigation. This new navigation has a sleek, modern look and feel and will save time with simpler workflows and easier access to important information.

In spring 2021 initial adopters have started using Blackboard Ultra. The feedback we received from faculty who used Blackboard Ultra during the spring 2021 was very positive and productive. They also had some concerns about a few tools within the Blackboard Ultra. We have reported the feedback to Blackboard.

The first wave starts in summer 2021 by converting a couple of programs courses to Bb Ultra.

Migration TimeLine:

Bb Ultra	
Move to SaaS - Done	Spring 2020
Move to Bb Learn Ultra Base Navigation - Done	Fall 2020
Initial Adopters - Done	Winter/Spring 2021
First Wave	Summer/Fall/Winter 2021
Second Wave	Spring/Summer 2022
All Classes Taught in Bb Ultra	Fall 2022

Fall 2020

Say goodbye to the old Blackboard Learn portal and say hello to Bb Learn Ultra’s Base Navigation, CSUDH next step in progressing to Blackboard Learn's more contemporary, intuitive navigation. This does NOT change how your courses look! Ultra’s Base Navigation only changes the portal and provides quick access to the most critical information from across all your courses. This new portal navigation

has a sleek, modern look and feel and saves you time with simpler workflows and easier access to important information.

Winter/Spring 2021

During winter and spring 2021, we will make Bb Ultra available to faculty who wish to be the first adopters.

Summer/Fall 2021

During summer/fall 2021 and fall most instructors who have not yet started using Bb Ultra for their courses will be invited to do so. Old Blackboard sites will still be available for teaching.

Spring/Summer 2022

During spring 2022, Bb Ultra will be used for most course sites. Old Blackboard sites will be available for teaching for the final classes that still need it.

Fall 2022

Bb Ultra is now the main learning management system for the campus. All courses will now be available through the Bb Ultra platform.

EVALUATING & REVIEWING INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY TOOLS

EesySoft for Blackboard

To help faculty and students use educational technology to drive digital transformation at every level of our campus, the academic technology committee continues to review and evaluate the latest technology. In our November 2020 meeting, a representative from EesySoft demonstrated their product EesySoft for Blackboard. EesySoft for the Blackboard Learn is a powerful communication and support solution tailor-made for the Ultra Experience. It creates pre-made support content, tutorials and notifications that can be placed inside Blackboard/courses. The committee agreed that EesySoft is a powerful tool for communicating with students.

The committee recommends that we pilot EesySoft for a semester, then decide whether to adopt it.

Grammarly, Education Package

Grammarly is a learning tool that works one-on-one with a student to develop writing skills, reinforce proper revision habits, and prevent plagiarism. Many faculty, students and staff have been using free versions of Grammarly. We have received many requests from the campus community to adopt the premium package for the campus. The educational package does have a Built-In Plagiarism Checker to

support research and writing assignments. It also integrates directly with your browser, working seamlessly with Blackboard, and many other platforms.

Grammarly Pros and Cons

Pros:

- Real-time grammar correcting
- Highly accurate
- Easy to understand explanations
- Very simple to use

Cons:

- Not fully accessible at this time
- Needs more synonyms
- No LMS integration

The Academic Technology Committee has recommended the adoption of Grammarly Education package for faculty, students and staff. Grammarly has not provided accessibility and VPAT documentations yet. IT will purchase Grammarly licenses after it receives the accessibility documents from the vendor.