

Minutes ITC December 12, 2019

The discussions at the December 12, 2019 meeting followed on the topics of the goals and purpose of the ITC of the faculty senate. The theme of this meeting was IT centered customer service both at the level of delivery of information to students and faculty. The student body is concerned with learning space and offerings of course related material; this includes online access to teaching materials as well as consistency across class rooms and teaching venues. It often takes several iterations of a class for the faculty or instructor to be familiar with the features of a teaching venue. The availability of intense support for new faculty was noted, however in the dynamic IT environment there are changes from year to year that require updates to established faculty. The existence of several advisory groups to the VP for IT was noted. The importance of ongoing flow of information from faculty to central leadership (e.g. VP for IT) was emphasized, there is a need for ongoing exchange and provision of needs of faculty and students. What are the deficits and what are the needs, what works and what does not.

Strategic elements of IT centered education were discussed. The point was raised that if students can review the lecture at 1.5 speed, the need for in-class instruction might be re-considered. How might a 'flipped classroom' or inverse teaching be applied class room experience. The flipped classroom experience is where the information is delivered online in advance of the classroom experience and the in-person (classroom) experience is used to deepen the knowledge based on active engagement. It was acknowledged that this might be more work for the instructors and that the engagement of 'instructional technologists' would benefit those faculty wishing to expand their abilities to integrate the flipped classroom approach into their courses.

It was discussed that the library is a strong resource for ongoing and up-to-date teaching strategies, with many established relationships that are ongoing.

The importance of marketing, showcasing, and sharing IT resources was emphasized. The UM as an institution needs to be aggressive in marketing the available resources in order for faculty to be aware of and engage in use of available resources.