



Information Technology Committee (ITC) Minutes

Meeting Date: January 10, 2024 1-2 pm (regular meeting)

Circulated: 2/2/2024

Approved: 2/8/2024

Present: Magda Ivanova (Chair), Varun Agrawal, Mashon Allen (VP's Chief of Staff), James Crawford, Ivo Dinov, Yun Jiang, Luis Marques, Ann Marshall (FSO), Amir Mortazawi, VP Ravi Pendse, Maura Seale, Deirdre Spencer (SACUA liaison), Quentin Stout, Sonia Tiquia-Arashi, Jeffrey Yackley.

1. Chair Magda Ivanova called the meeting was called to order and there were no objections to approving the minutes.

- Today's meeting will be a discussion of GenAI (see also [agenda](#)) and the recordings of the [Provost's Seminar on GenAI and teaching](#) were also recommended.

2. ITC discussion on GenAI included the following:

- GenAI has been beneficial with: drafting multiple choice exam questions, providing discussion questions for an online class discussion board, drafting a literature review for a grant application, extracting hypotheses and the many potential applications for research, for more quickly finding their own citations, and interest in how AI might reduce bureaucratic work.
- ITC members shared GenAI challenges/concerns: skepticism about GenAI especially for some humanities applications, how convincing it sounds even when the content is false, the challenge of AI for an upper-level writing course where it's clear students have been using it but hard to discern what is their writing and what is AI.
- VP Ravi Pendse and ITC members commented on the benefits of [U-M GenAI](#) tools, including options to: upload course materials in a secure environment, include links to source materials, and to "dial" up and down the "heat" of accuracy (use only my notes) to possible deviation (go anywhere for info).
- VP Pendse added that it is a tool, like Google, and that faculty can decide how and if to use the tool for their own purposes. Some initial users of U-M GenAI included high-power users, incurring an operational cost of close to \$5,000 per day. The U-M GenAI tools have been free to use through January 2024, but a small cost (\$.02 per 1-sentence prompt/1-paragraph reply to a \$.48 per prompt/25-page reply) will begin in February 2024.
- Additional plug-ins will be released, e.g. DALL-E 3. Steps such as verifying security and using the proper contractors are needed before new enhancements can be released.
- Some granting entities have begun to institute guidelines about when AI can and cannot be used and it is important that faculty check these guidelines.

3. ITC members made several recommendations related to U-M costs for GenAI:

- U-M might offer a free, grace period to use U-M GenAI without cost, allowing faculty to test it out. This is especially helpful for those unfamiliar with GenAI or who may teach only one class per year.



- U-M could offer a baseline GenAI service for everyone. There might be a risk that GenAI access at U-M becomes multi-tiered with some faculty/disciplines having more access than others.
4. There was a discussion on U-M Google Drive and Dropbox data storage options
- The new [Google Drive storage limit](#) creates challenges for some faculty and the deadline for faculty to meet the 250 GB storage limit is April 1, 2024. For example, one faculty shared they are nearing their G-Drive limit and will need to move images files collected for research from G-Drive to Dropbox.
 - VP Pendse explained that the 250 GB quota for G-Drive storage was a data driven decision. This G-Drive limit is estimated to meet the needs of 95% of faculty and was necessitated by Google's change in policy to no longer offer unlimited storage. It is a potential struggle with any vendor, as vendors may have advantageous policies at first and then impose additional costs moving forward.
 - A question was raised about storage limits for Kaltura, and Mashon Allen look into this and follow-up.
5. Links shared during the ITC meeting via chat include: 1) [GenAI at UM](#), [GenAI Research Resources](#) , [Maizey In-Depth](#), 2) GenAI pricing: [UM GenAI Pricing](#), 3) [MiVideo / Kaltura Products](#)

Meeting adjourned.

Upcoming Winter Term ITC meeting include:

Thursday, February 8, 3:30-4:30 pm

Thursday, March 21, 3:00-4:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marshall (FSO, Faculty Governance Coordinator)