

Meeting Minutes from

SENATE COMMITTEE – Education Services and Information Technology (SCEDIT)
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK

Date: September 29, 2023

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Zoom Meeting

In Attendance: Keri Hollander, [Scott Campbell](#), Joseph Balsamo, Moshe Eisenberg, [Rose Tirota-Esposito](#), Lenore Lamanna, Simeon Ananou, [Cynthia Davidson](#), Tom Wilson, Victoria Pilato, Diana Voss, Henry Joseph

Meeting called to order at 3:00PM, Adjourned at 3:59PM

We asked to record the meeting purely for the purpose of creating minutes, the recording is not kept after minutes are approved. Typically we will alternate between Educational Services and Information Technology to lead the meeting. That way we can ensure both of our main components get equal time. This will be the first meeting attended by Simeon Ananou, our new Division of Information Technology Vice President and Chief Information Officer (CIO). So it makes sense for this meeting to start with Information Technology.

Information Technology

Before we began recording, all the committee members introduced themselves and Simeon was given the floor to address the committee members. Simeon provided some of his background and discussed the ideals that motivate him as a CIO.

[Henry Joseph](#) will provide an update on the implementation of Team Dynamix, our new ticketing system. We went live with Team Dynamix with ticketing and the service catalog on June 30th, 2023. The feedback so far has been positive and we are making adjustments to our workflow so that tickets get to the teams they are meant for faster. We should be able to make improvements to the processes because the system is very flexible. We are advising the East Campus so they can learn from our experience. The hospital environment is a lot more secure so we need to ensure only the people who need access have access to it.

Working with the procurement department, the office of equity and access, human resources, and campus residences to implement their own services. Procurement has made the most progress, they should go live around the same time as Stony Brook Medicine.

Question: By getting offices such as HR and Procurement involved in the Team Dynamix projects does that mean they can move tickets between those offices to serve an individual better?

Answer: We have only one instance of Team Dynamix but we can set up within that, multiple instances for multiple departments. That means a ticket that is created is valid across the entire organization and will get routed to where it needs to go. You can check your ticket for status updates and will eventually bridge East and West campus.

Response: That's a big improvement, having Stony Brook University being able to handle support tickets as an organization rather than a bunch of different departments provides a better way to service these requests.

Educational Services

Diana Voss and [Rose Tirota-Esposito](#) provided an update on our new Learning Management System, [Brightspace](#). This is the first semester all of our courses are being taught in Brightspace. Blackboard is being decommissioned on October 5, 2023. A few people will need access to Blackboard for accreditation purposes and we are archiving courses from the past three years into [K16](#).

Response: The retention of 3 years is from the site of the accrediting body coming on site, so that is important to any programs that need accreditation.

Question: What happens when we click on a link for an application that used to go through Blackboard and now goes through Brightspace, will it still work? For example, if we have an interdisciplinary course between the School of Medicine and Journalism and people need to go to Echo360 will the link log them into Echo360.

Nothing was changed in any of the systems. In Brightspace, if they want to use any of the tools they need to recreate the link in Brightspace. Is their NetID passed through from Brightspace to Echo360, yes it is.

Question: What about quiz and testing suites like Respondus or any of the others that were used in the past. Will they work the same in Brightspace?

Answer: The only change in Brightspace, for Respondus Lockdown Browser students click the link inside of Brightspace. In the past, you ran the browser first and then you connected. Brightspace will start it up in the Lockdown Browser.

In Brightspace there is something called the learning object repository where we have syllabi statements. So faculty don't need to worry about giving directions to using various tech tools, that has already been created for them. On Mondays we get around 97,000 logins that drops down to 39,000 on weekends. At this time about 74,000 assignments exist so far for the Fall. We can pull really good data, we didn't have that in Blackboard.

Blackboard is being turned off on October 5th. We've been communicating this out so everyone has what they need. Blackboard's license ends in December, so we need the time to archive all the data to K16.

We will be introducing Brightspace tools that faculty can use in Spring 2024. Things like the checklist and their progress. Push grades from Brightspace to Peoplesoft, things like attendance verification that can work in Peoplesoft too. So using the tools in Brightspace will motivate integrations with Peoplesoft.

Question: I had a lot of problems setting up the Grade Book in Brightspace, can it be made more user friendly?

Answer: We offer grade book health checks, so you can set up an appointment so we can go through your grade book with you.

Shout out to Nicole Gladky for helping me with my zoom account. I want her to be recognized for her help, she was great.

Observation: External tools like [articulate](#) that allows faculty to create video lessons with different check points where the student is answering questions. It interfaces with Brightspace using [scorm](#) and would record their grade on the first pass. In Brightspace, if a student got kicked out or the student would exit, it would override the score. The faculty has been in a meeting with John Baker the CEO of Brightspace, which then got escalated to a technical resource in Brightspace and in about a week it was working well. The people at Brightspace have been very responsive.

Roles such as a course builder, having a lead faculty member update and develop courses. They could not create or modify exams. A ticket was created and now that capability has been added to the course builder role.

Question: How can we better help students access information for the libraries?

Answer: On the Brightspace page students need to look across to see the links to the libraries and at the bottom of the page there's always the library chat. If you want to write a paragraph I can add it to the syllabus statements so faculty can add that to their courses about how the library can help them.

Cynthia Davidson give an update on the AI [Virtual Conference "Writing, Thinking, and Learning with AI: Exploring Relationships of Rhetoric and Artificial Intelligence"](#). We invite you all to register and attend. There are a lot of proposals that should be of interest from all kinds of disciplines.

Report from Research: nothing to report.

Report from Libraries: Update from Victoria Pilato, the library strategic plan is due to be finished in December. This will be announced out widely to the university. Please see the email sent to the committee by Victoria below:

SCEdiT - University Libraries follow-up
External
Inbox

Victoria Pilato
Thu, Oct 12, 12:22 PM (13 days ago)
to Keri.Hollander, Cynthia, Diana, Fumio, Henry, Iris, Joseph.Balsamo, Kenneth, Lenore, Matthew, Michael, moises.eisenberg, Thomas, John, Rose, Vishruth, Simeon, Erez, me, Patricia

Hello SCEdiT committee,

At our last meeting I mentioned the University Libraries strategic planning committee would soon be soliciting feedback via a survey. It is here (below) and I hope you don't mind I share it with all of you. Your feedback is important and appreciated. Please share with your departments if willing.

I'm having a hard time getting this through East campus channels/newsletters, so any of you working on the East campus, please share with your colleagues if you are willing. I would really appreciate it.

Help us Shape the Future of SBU Libraries: Strategic Planning Community Survey

The Libraries' final call for feedback on our strategic planning is here. Please fill out our survey and take part in the Libraries' future. The survey will take about 5 minutes to complete.

https://stonybrookuniversity.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2mhHi6viwHIZPPE

THANK YOU

Best,
Victoria

Victoria Pilato (she/her)
Digital Projects Librarian

We are working on migrating some of our digital repositories to our open access scholarship repository, which is academic commons. That's a very big project. We also hiring: a director of innovation, a director of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility, director of data science, AI library data scientist.

Plans to create labs, makerspace, VR and AI, an area for student podcasts.

Agenda Item: staff maintaining their @stonybrook email or electronic presence at the university after retirement.

Tom Wilson, this has been brought up in this committee and at the PEG board. Lots of responses from other people that email archives are gone, data in Google Drive is lost. I wrote a memo to the executive board of the University Senate. The four things I proposed:

1. There should be a mechanism for retiring professionals to apply for and be granted emeritus professional status similar to emeritus faculty. This would include continuation of the professionals regular stonybrook.edu email account and continued access to workspaces such as Google Apps and Google Drive. Existing university IT policies would still apply just as they do to emeritus faculty. Violations of SBU policies would carry penalties, just as they would to emeritus faculty. The cost of maintaining emeritus professional accounts would be trivial compared to the value of maintaining easy connections with the experience and expertise of skilled and dedicated retired professionals.
2. When professionals depart, other than through retirement, there should be a mechanism put in place to forward or auto respond for the departing professional. This way an incoming message can be responded to appropriately rather than getting a user not found error.

3. With consent of the departing employee or appropriate justification, transfer ownership of cloud storage to a continuing employee at Stony Brook.

Response: That topic itself is a complicated one, we need to evaluate the pros and cons and to the continuity of the institution to make a good decision.

Thomas, I've been building equipment here for 40 years that have my email thomas.wilson@stonybrook.edu on each one. So we regularly get inquiries on getting a new piece of equipment built.

Agenda Items for future meetings:

Simeon, I give people three questions to reflect on prior to our meeting to make the interaction more meaningful.

Question 1: What are you most proud of about your work at Stony Brook?

Question 2: What are your expectations for the VP/CIO?

Question 3: How can I help you be even more successful at your job?

This will help frame our partnership to improve our dialog.

Please anyone email Keri and Scott and we can add those new business items to the agenda.