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Boulder Faculty Assembly
Academic Technology & Services Committee (ATSC) 2023-2024 Annual Report

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Report Completed by*:* Janet Casagrand, Department of Integrative Physiology, ATSC Chair

Academic Technology and Services Committee Members:
 Faculty:
    Janet Casagrand (Chairperson, IPHY)
    Philip Chang (MUSC)
    Karen Gebhardt (CE)
    Gerardo Gutierrez (ANTH)
    Seth Hornstein (APS)
    Joseph Labrecque (CMCI)
    Amanda Schaetzel (IPHY)
    Nicole Wright (CE)

Student representative:
    Michael Schneider, graduate student in computer science and Educational Data Analyst

*OIT and Administration Resources**:***
    Marin Stanek, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer
    Elizabeth Romero Fuerte, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Assistant Vice Provost for Academic and
        Learning Technologies, Office of Information Technology (OIT)
    Kirk Ambrose, Faculty Director, Center for Teaching and Learning
    Amanda McAndrew, ASSETT Manager, Center for Teaching and Learning
    Robert McDonald, Dean of University Libraries, Senior Vice Provost of Online & Extended Education
    Orrie Gartner, Associate Vice Chancellor and Deputy CIO, OIT

Meeting dates: 9/18/23; 10/16/23: 11/13/23; 01/22/24; 02/19/24; 03/18/24; 04/22/24; 5/6/24

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Overview of Committee Work and Accomplishments

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The BFA Academic Technology and Services Committee (ATSC) held monthly meetings via Zoom to examine a variety of topics associated with academic technologies impacting faculty and students on campus. Meetings included guest presentations from a variety of campus groups, including OIT, CTL, ASSETT, Online Education, Libraries, the Digital Accessibility Office, and others, followed by discussion and input by committee members. A brief overview of the main topics of discussion in AY23-24 are summarized below.

New IT Governance Model
Marin Stanek provided the ATSC with an overview of the new IT Governance Model and also presented this information to the BFA Assembly. IT Governance is a framework aligning IT strategies with overall institutional goals; it facilitates effective decision-making through transparency and ensures that investments in technology are optimized to maximize their impact on organizational objectives. CU Boulder's new IT [governance model](#) is comprised of various committees and groups representing the academic and research interests of the campus and guide strategic IT direction. This structure ensures engagement and dialogue between key stakeholders.

The ATSC is a key part of this new IT Governance Model acting to collect and forward recommendations concerning academic technologies and services. Related to this, the ATSC began

discussing ways to improve communication between faculty and OIT, and began receiving updates from the newly reinstated Academic Technology Advisory Group (ATAG, see below).

Secure Computing Project
OIT is continuing its efforts in the secure computing space. Multi-factor authentication was successfully rolled out; OIT reported a low number of tickets associated with this. External email tagging and quarantining of emails from likely or suspected phishing or malicious sources were also instituted.

In addition, OIT discussed the implications of *APS 6005: System-wide Baseline Security Standards* which apply to all individuals who access or control CU Boulder information technology resources. This standard identifies the minimum requirements for all University-owned computers and servers to ensure the integrity and security of University data and the shared information technology environment, including networks, services, and systems. All university computers and servers used by faculty, staff, students, or other authorized individuals must meet this Standard, regardless of manufacturer, function of the system, or location. These actions are necessary to ensure resource availability, reinforce CU's security and compliance posture, and protect confidentiality of data assets.

Online Proctoring (Proctorio)
Central support of Proctorio will end 8/31/24. Usage of the service has dropped post-pandemic with notable exceptions in Leeds, Math and Economics. OIT began communicating the discontinuation of central support of Proctorio to users, surveying faculty about their online proctoring needs and preferences, soliciting student input on Proctorio, and evaluating alternative options. Some faculty (e.g., Leeds) require Proctorio because students need access to Excel during online assessments. Many faculty would be comfortable with a less rigorous system (e.g., a lockdown browser). In addition, some programs require authentication of student identities for degree programs.

Google Email Migration
OIT discussed the Google email migration schedule and notification strategy. All migrations should be complete by June 2024.

Discontinuation of Kaltura
Kaltura will be discontinued as a video platform option and all existing Kaltura content will be migrated over to a new platform. Yuja was explored as an option, but during its soft launch a number of concerning issues were encountered with the migration of Kaltura content to the platform. OIT decided not to explore this option further as a result. Consequently, Kaltura content will be moved to the existing Canvas Studio platform, which is implementing significant improvements in accessibility, administration, and data reporting, in addition to functionality improvements. Canvas Studio is a more cost-efficient solution and will be a less impactful change for the campus community. Migration of content will be completed by Fall 2024 with any existing PlayPosit content also migrated over to Canvas Studio.

Center for Teaching and Learning and ASSETT
The CTL continues to be active in supporting the academic community in a variety of ways. Several of their projects include:
- New CTL Teaching Well with Technology website
- Annual Spring Conference: Promising Teaching Practices in the 21st Century
- Artificial Intelligence Community of Practice
- Summer Studio 2024, Teaching & Learning with AI Open Access Day
- Climate & Sustainability - Faculty Working Group

- [Faculty-recommended Promising Practices for Student-Centered Grading in Canvas](#) – the result of a CTL-facilitated faculty working group.
- Optional Canvas templates will also be rolled out in the near future to help faculty better utilize Canvas and provide a more uniform experience for students.

OIT/CTL Academic Technologies survey
The committee also previewed an Academic Technologies survey for faculty and students, and received a summary of the results.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)
The committee continued to discuss how generative AI may impact the academic community. The idea of forming a subcommittee on AI was discussed, but it was decided that the time was not yet appropriate pending clarification of some campus-level legal and administrative AI issues. The CTL is providing a variety of faculty resources and discussions on AI, and also has a new [AI website](#). A new AI microcredential is also planned.

One concern that was raised is students report being confused about what is or is not acceptable use of AI for their classes. Faculty are encouraged to include a syllabus policy explicitly stating what the policy is for their course.

The committee was also notified of the discontinuation of a trial of Turn-It-In's AI Detection Tool. This decision to not support this software at the current time was based on a user survey and a unanimous recommendation from the Academic Technology Advisory Group (ATAG) who considered limitations and concerns surrounding the current software.

CU Boulder Online Education
The committee heard about current [online initiatives](#), a new Computer Science AI graduate certificate for fall 2024, and a potential new Computer Science AI online MS degree (modeled after [UT Austin's program](#)). Online education also announced new resources: https://online.colorado.edu/

Libraries
The committee received an update on the impact of the Norlin fire. The Libraries also announced the successful conclusion of negotiations with Elsevier.

RedShelf Book Access Program
The committee also received an update on issues encountered with the Bookstore RedShelf Book Access Program and discussed the future of the program.

Digital Accessibility Office (DAO)
The committee also heard from the DAO about [HB21-1110](#), a Colorado Law for Persons with Disabilities and CU's compliance requirements. The DAO also hosted a panel discussion on this topic for the campus community.

Summary
During the 2023-2024 academic year, the BFA Academic Technology and Services committee served to support faculty and students through discussions and recommendations in the following topical areas: (a) Participation in the new IT Governance Framework; (b) Secure Computing Project; (c) suggesting and disseminating Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) and ASSETT resources; (d) student-centered Canvas grading; (e) generative AI; (f) Online proctoring; (g) Google email migration. The 2024-25 academic year will see continued work in these and related areas.