

Boulder Faculty Assembly
Academic Technology Committee (ATC) 2024-2025 Annual Report

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

Academic Technology and Services Committee Members:

Faculty:

Janet Casagrand (Chairperson, IPHY)
Philip Chang (MUSC)
Gerardo Gutierrez (ANTH)
Joseph Labrecque (CMCI)
Adam Norris (APPM)
Amanda Schaetzel (IPHY)
Philip White (LIBR)
Nicole Wright (CE)

Faculty resource member:

Seth Hornstein (APS)

Administrative Liaisons:

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
Viktoriya Oliynyk, Associate Director of Academic Technologies, OIT
Kristi Wold-McCormick, University Registrar
Reid Kallman, Associate Registrar
Mike Williamson, Digital Access Office (DAO), Assistant Director
Ally Bartley, Training/Outreach Manager, DAO

Additional guests:

Matthew Avena, Assistant Director for academic resources and e-commerce at the CU Bookstore
Dilan Weerasinghe, Lab Services Manager, OIT
Jacob Henry, Training & Consulting Lead of ATC team, OIT
Jane Kenney, Voice/Network Services, Team Lead, OIT
Glenn Rodrigues, Senior Mobility and Wireless Architect, OIT
Melinda Easter, Service Manager for Predictive Analytics, OIT
Rebecca Kallemeyn, Program Manager of Academic Technology Initiatives, Consulting & Training
Nick Steinkamp, Service Manager for Classroom Capture
Erika Randall, interim dean and vice provost of undergraduate education
Robert Stubbs, Director of Institutional Research
Mari Dark, Office of Undergraduate Education
Robin Swift, Special Initiatives Project Manager in Academic Affairs Division of Academic Affairs
Marisha Lamont-Manfre, DigiAccess Usability Assessment Manager, OIT

Meeting dates: 8/26/24; 9/9/24; 9/23/24; 10/7/24; 11/4/24; 11/18/24;
01/14/25; 1/28/25; 2/25/25; 4/1/25; 4/15/25; 4/29/25

Overview of Committee Work

The BFA Academic Technology Committee (ATC) held biweekly meetings via Zoom to examine a variety of topics associated with academic technologies impacting faculty and students on campus. Meetings included presentations from a variety of campus groups, including the Office of Information Technology (OIT), Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), Arts & Sciences Support of Education Through Technology (ASSETT), Academic Technology Advisory Group (ATAG), CU Bookstore, Online Education, Libraries, Digital Accessibility Office, Buff Undergraduate Success (BUS) Initiative, and others, followed by discussion and input by committee members. The main topics of discussion in AY24-25 are listed below.

- **Revision of committee charge and name**
 - Some items previously in the Academic Technology and Services Committee (ATSC) charge were moved to newly established Campus Operations and Resources Committee (CORC), and the ATSC renamed to the Academic Technology Committee (ATC).
- **CU Book Access Program**
 - The committee heard about rebranding of the book access program to 'CU Book Access' and how it now includes '*CU Book Access Complete*', where students pay a single price for all materials, and '*CU Book Access Select*', where students can choose their materials and purchase them individually; additionally, students can now 'opt out of all' options.
- **Red Shelf**
 - The committee discussed improvements to the Adoption Tool and new platform, and how students access course materials through the RedShelf tool in Canvas including access to materials provided by the bookstore, library, or course packs.
 - The committee also heard concerns about the Red Shelf e-reader. Usability testing of the e-reader platform in December 2023 and August 2024, including by individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology, was categorized as "inaccessible," for both testing periods although the number of issues decreased from 2023 to 2024.
- **Academic technology surveys**
 - The committee heard the results of a recent academic technology survey, created in collaboration with the ATC, and given to faculty and students. Most respondents found academic technology at CU to be mostly or entirely sufficient, with OIT being the most popular support resource.
 - Students expressed high satisfaction with classroom capture technology and requested its expansion to more rooms. However, students reported often having difficulty navigating the Canvas platform due to inconsistent use by faculty, leading to a request for standardization and consistency in course format.
 - In terms of generative AI, students are more likely to see benefits and are using generative AI as a learning aid, tutor, search engine, and translator; faculty are more concerned about genAI's potential threats and challenges.
- **Canvas templates and Canvas Commons Library**
 - The committee was introduced to the new Canvas templates, designed by a faculty working group to improve student experience and decrease instructor preparation time. Feedback on the templates has been very positive.

- The Canvas templates are accessible through the Canvas Commons Library, and the committee saw a demonstration on the Canvas Commons Library, a platform for sharing resources and materials across institutions using Canvas.
- **Automatic Canvas course creation feature**
 - OIT has begun automatic Canvas course creation to encourage and facilitate faculty use of this technology.
- **Classroom Capture Expansion Assessment Project**
 - This project aims to make automated lecture capture available to the majority of first- and second-year students. The project involves data analysis to determine current usage and potential expansion, a review of classroom scheduling processes with the Office of the Registrar, and an assessment of scalability and costs.
- **Generative AI-related topics**
 - The committee discussed gen AI-related topics on several occasions including syllabus guidance, development of best practices guidance and resources, and the need for faculty communication about genAI policies. Committee members reviewed the BFA Resolution on genAI syllabus statement recommendations that were developed by a combined BFA/CTL AI Working Group.
- **Network Access Control (NAC) and WiFi project**
 - The committee heard a presentation highlighting the challenges of Wi-Fi technology in educational settings and the need for a more robust system to handle increasing Wi-Fi consumption. The NAC project aims to resolve issues identified with the existing NAC and is set to be implemented for spring 2026. The importance of the project in increasing student success and improving the teaching and learning experience on campus was emphasized.
- **Apporto virtual desktop support**
 - Apporto allows course software to be accessible to students via virtual desktops, rather than students having to install the software on their personal computers.
- **FRPA categories**
 - The committee discussed the potential for new FRPA codes related to professional development for instructional technology and teaching with AI.
- **Kaltura migration**
 - The committee received an update on the final stage of the Kaltura migration. Kaltura was fully retired as of December 31st and all content migrated and relinked in Canvas.
- **Learner Lifecycle CRM project**
 - An update was provided on the project, initiated in 2023, which seeks to address the current decentralized approach to CRM technology at CU Boulder and aims to implement a common platform and data model across the entire student experience. The first phase, focusing on CU Boulder online students, is expected to take 18 months, with core CRM functionality to be completed in 12 months
- **Buff Undergraduate Success (BUS) Initiative Overview and Updates**
 - The committee also heard an update about the BUS Initiative from various representatives involved in the BUS initiative.

Summary

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the BFA Academic Technology Committee served to support faculty and students through discussions and recommendations in the following topical areas: recent faculty and student academic technology survey results and implications; CU Book Access Program and Red Shelf; Canvas templates, the Canvas Commons Library, and automatic Canvas course creation tool; generative AI and AI syllabus statement recommendations; Classroom capture expansion project; Network Access Control and WiFi project; Learner Lifecycle CRM project; BUS Initiative; and Apporto virtual desktop support. The ATC chair also participated in the Student Academic Technology Committee (SATC) as part of the IT Governance framework. The 2025-26 academic year will see continued work in these and related areas.