

Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology (FACT) 2020-2021 Report

Submitted by Chair Dr. Lesley Farmer

FACT had a productive academic year. The committee met monthly for a total of eight times. Attendance was consistently high, and the group participated actively and represented their colleges effectively.

Each month FACT had IT and ATS report on their projects and directions, and FACT provided input and feedback. For instance, automatic activation of BeachBoard courses and removal of old BeachBoard courses were approved by FACT. Hyperflex definitions and practice, privacy concerns, equity concerns, online student forums, college technology committee practices, computer lab space, and international students' challenges were discussed.

Each month FACT invited a different technology-based office or service to discuss its developments: professional development opportunities such as ATS/DoIT and CSU; importing grades into PeopleSoft; new apps (Playposit, Gradescope, Labster, Polleverywhere); student virtual lab software; 3D printing services in the library; campus security (including multi-factor authentication) and phishing baseline data; and initiatives: Accessible Technology Initiative, ALLY, hyperflex rooms).

COVID-19 was a significant discussion thread. FACT discussed COVID-19 impact (e.g., student stress, cheating), countermeasures (e.g., wifi hotspots, check-out equipment, alternative assessments, video policy) and related websites (ATI, ATS/DoIT, MERLOT).

Looking to fall 2021, the extended approval of the software matrix and equity issues were suggested to be discussed in Fall 2021.

In short, FACT provides a vital venue for two-way communication and decision-making on technology that impacts the entire campus community.