

Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology (FACT) 2018-19 Annual Report

The purpose of the Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology (FACT) is to advise the University bodies involved in planning, development, implementation, and application of technology campus wide, including, but not limited to, Academic Technology Services (ATS), Division of Information Technology Services (DoIT), the College of Professional and International Education (CPIE), and the University Library on faculty and student issues related to academic technology. The Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology shall also assist in the communication and collaboration between, and among, various constituencies and communities of technology users. The Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology reports to the Academic Senate.

FACT met its charge during AY 2018-19. The primary focus of the committee over five meetings was continuing to revise and update the existing campus policy on online and hybrid instruction at CSULB. We used the CSU Online Education White Paper (2012) as a rough guide for which policy components to consider for inclusion and tried to ensure that online and hybrid classes and/or programs would comply with WASC requirements as outlined in the *Interregional Guidelines for the Evaluation of Distance Education* Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions (C-RAC) (2011).

The revised policy differs from the current policy statement 03-11 *Academic Technology and the Mode of Instruction* in a few key ways:

1. Definitions for different modes of instruction have been updated and the idea of synchronous versus asynchronous instruction identified as a factor that needs to be considered when designing and scheduling a course;
2. Links to relevant policy documents have been included, which simplifies the text while automatically incorporating future modifications if/when those policies are updated;
3. Resources available to faculty and students (many which did not exist when the current policy was written in 2003) have been made more explicit.

There was a First Reading of the revised policy in the Academic Senate meeting of May 2, 2019; although no major concerns were raised, as the policy was not voted on before the end of the academic year the process will need to begin again in Fall 2019.

We also identified a few other policy documents that may need updating in light of the revisions (albeit by different committees):

1. PS 08-02 *Cheating and Plagiarism* does not currently reference online learning at all; however, the C-RAC document stipulates that “the institution’s policies on academic integrity include explicit references to online learning;”
2. PS 11-07 *Course Syllabi and Standard Course Outlines* uses the current definitions for modes of instruction and text regarding syllabus requirements for online and hybrid courses could be modernized;
3. PS 08-11 *Accessibility and Faculty Responsibility* uses the current definitions for modes of instruction (traditional and hybrid), but omits online completely.

FACT will be happy to work next AY with whichever relevant committees might be tasked with revising these documents (particularly PS 08-02 *Cheating and Plagiarism*, given the need to bring the University into compliance with current WASC standards), perhaps by supplying appropriate language regarding academic integrity in online and hybrid courses.

Other accomplishments include:

- Receiving regular updates on campus-wide technology matters from the Vice President and Chief Information Office, Min Yao, and Associate Vice President for Academic Technology, Shawna Dark;
- Touring the new Academic Technology Services (ATS) facilities to learn about the resources and technology available to CSULB instructors (e.g., online and in-person training, Active Learning Classrooms, Learning Glass, etc.);
- Discussing how FACT might serve as a point of contact for planned technology changes on campus by receiving regular reports from the administration and perhaps developing a template form to be completed with specifics on implementation for new projects;
- Revising the current FACT Charge and Membership document to update department and position titles; will need to be approved by the Academic Senate next year.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bengt Allen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bengt Allen
Chair, Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology