Committee on Educational Technology (CET)  

Friday November 13, 2015, 10:00 am – 11:00 am  
Seelye B8, Sherrerd Center, Seelye Hall  

Present: Tom Laughner (Co-Chair), Bill Peterson (Co-Chair), Tony Caldanaro, Susan Etheredge, Simon Halliday, Anne Houston, Molly Maturo, Beth Powell, Mark Umstot, Yasmin Eisenhauer (guest), Deborah Keisch (guest)  
Absent: Rodger Blum, Dominique Thiebaut

1. Telepresence Robot Demo

- Yasmin Eisenhauer, Instructional Technologist, and Deborah Keisch, Instructional Technologist, presented the Telepresence Robot.
  - It is a way for students to engage classes remotely.
  - It is controlled in a web-based interface.
  - It works best with iPad.
  - It is browser agnostic (any browser can be used).
  - The group utilized the tool, with S. Halliday controlling the robot remotely via computer while it was outside of the room.
  - The robot has wheels and has a camera at its top, in which the operator is shown.
  - There is a survey for those who have tested it to provide feedback.
  - The Library Planning Committee has utilized the robot as one of the College’s trustees participates on the committee from off-site.
  - T. Laughner used the robot recently to participate in a meeting while he was off-site. He found that it is better for participation in rather than to lead a meeting.
  - It is open for exploration and may be used to connect groups to the College such as alumnae and parents.
  - It can take photographs.
  - The unit costs $2,500.00 and the additional audio kit costs $300.00.
  - Ethical concerns include whether people wish to be photographed and/or recorded.

2. Discussion of Online Learning Funds

- Within Educational Technology Services (ETS) there is a budget for ETS Innovation.
- Katherine Rowe, Provost/Dean of the Faculty, would like some of the funds to be used for blended learning.
- T. Laughner had previously spoken with David Gregory, former Vice President of Information Technology Services (ITS), about using some funds for CET.
- Funds might be used for innovation technologies, online grants, and faculty development.
- Available funding for CET will not be established until a new ITS vice president is hired.
• The group was advised not to advertise funding until the available amount is known.
• The group discussed the possibility of using funds for Open Educational Resources (OER), in which students may obtain free resources without having to purchase textbooks.

3. Discussion of John Brady CET Grant Proposal

• The group agreed to approve John Brady’s proposal *Online Petrology Textbook* for $5,200.00 using ETS Innovation funds.
• This funding will be transferred into the CET budget.

4. Review of Minutes from September 17 Meeting

• The group approved the Minutes for the September 17 meeting.