Committee on Educational Technology (CET)             Spring 2016

Tuesday April 26, 2016, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Seelye B8, Sherrerd Center, Seelye Hall
Present: Tom Laughner (Co-Chair), Bill Peterson (Co-Chair), Rodger Blum, Tony Caldanaro, Susan Etheredge, Simon Halliday, Beth Powell, Dominique Thiebaut, Mark Umstot, Jennifer Spohrer (guest)
Absent: Anne Houston, Molly Maturo

1. Blended Learning Discussion with Jennifer Spohrer

- Jennifer Spohrer is Manager of Educational Technology Services at Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.
- There is a wide range of students of various backgrounds regarding levels of learning, especially in large and introductory classes.
- E-lectures can be used so that the instructor can utilize class time for other projects.
  o Quizzes can be used to identify the students who are or are not participating in the e-lectures.
- Studies have shown that prompts for recall strengthen neurons in the brain.
- Submitting information online rather than only posting to Moodle can induce anxiety in students.
- An assessment of what is taught in a class for purposes of redistributing content online might show that there may be too much content covered.
  o It is more difficult to experiment with a foundational class because of the expectation that specific content will be covered as a requirement for other classes further up the ladder.
- There are different methods of using and grading quizzes, such as having the students grade each other.
- The group discussed the use of technology to better the experiences of off-campus students.
  o Bryn Mawr is a member of TriCollege along with Haverford and Swarthmore Colleges.
    ▪ All students from any of the three are registered with the other two, with one account.
  o There are concerns with sharing private information with other colleges.
- T. Laughner will look into access to Lynda.com at Smith College.
- Technology should be used creatively to enhance the classroom experience in some fundamental way rather than used just to solve a particular problem.
• There are pros and cons regarding the visibility of an instructor to a class.
  o An explanation should be given to the students beforehand of why an expert will give a video tutorial rather than the instructor.

• Technology should not be used for the sake of change but rather to accomplish the goals the instructor wants to achieve.
  o Identify the needs of students and implement accordingly.
  o Use for less lecture time in class so that other projects can be initiated.
  o Some classes will never have a technology component as it is not warranted.

• The group discussed the effects of administrative regulations on classes.