Grainger CoE IT Governance Education Working Group AY 22-23

Report and Executive Recommendations

Members:

Melkior Ornik (mornik@illinois.edu, AE – Chair)

Michael Chan (mgc@illinois.edu, Engineering IT – Ex Officio)

Molly Goldstein (mhg3@illinois.edu, ISE)

Jiajun He (jiajunhe@illinois.edu, MechSE)

Frank Hoskinson (fhoskins@illinois.edu, Grad Programs)

Joseph Irudayaraj (jirudaya@illinois.edu, BioE)

Erhan Kudeki (erhan@illinois.edu, ECE)

Michael Nowak (mnowak1@illinois.edu, CS)

Rebecca Wiltfong (rwiltfon@illinois.edu, Physics)

Agenda:

The working group met eight times during the year – roughly once a month – and had an additional joint meeting with the research working group. The topics discussed during the meetings were:

Meeting 1 – Revisit of discussion priorities from previous years

Meeting 2 – Online/hybrid/interactive resources, software, and spacing

Meeting 3 – EngrIT budget

Meeting 4 – EngrIT "Test Kitchen"

Meeting 5 – CBTF

Meeting 6 – Hybrid and online teaching

Meeting 7 and joint meeting – Computational resources

Meeting 8 – Summary of critical recommendations

Recommendations:

1) The College should explicitly **introduce and support streaming capabilities** for online and hybrid classes; faculty adoption of Kaltura and other interactive tools may depend on the tool's streaming performance.

2) The committee still supports purchase of MATLAB licenses for students, but understands that the decision might be to not pursue such an effort. In that case, smooth running of Citrix operations needs to be prioritized, **including access to Citrix without VPN**; since Citrix is not an option generally loved by students, the least that can be done for their buy-in is ensure its smooth real-time operation.

3) This working group should receive explicit **positive or negative feedback from the executive** and/or the administrative working group about its recommendations; there are items that have been recommended by the group for years and there seems to be neither any motion forward, nor any indications that the recommendations have been declined – the working group uses time every year discussing the same topics without hearing back.

4) **Investment and support in the EngrIT test kitchen should continue**, and its efforts and capabilities should be widely promoted to faculty.

5) CBTF Governance Committee should **develop criteria for which courses get a chance to participate in CBTF** if/when the event capacity becomes a limiting factor.

6) The College should consider **introducing and reinforcing new faculty usage of common computational resources** through an "internal start-up" grant.

7) The College and departments should work together to **introduce modalities for purchasing/using computing infrastructure needed for specific courses,** inspiring instructional innovation and setting Illinois' educational experience apart from its peers through modern technologies.

8) The College should **assign or hire a Learning Design Specialist**, recognizing that there is a need for additional assessment technology, particularly for classes which might not fit within the CBTF framework, either by their needs or by CBTF availability. The committee specifically recommends that this person facilitates discussions with faculty and units to understand assessment needs across the College, and then works on novel products that are helpful to a large number of faculty, as opposed to helping individual faculty or assisting with CBTF.