

Boulder Faculty Assembly

Academic Technology & Services Committee (ATSC) 2022-2023 Annual Report

Report Completed by: Janet Casagrand, Department of Integrative Physiology, ATSC Chair

Academic Technology and Services Committee Members:

Faculty:

Janet Casagrand (Chairperson, IPHY)
Karen Gebhardt (CE)
Joseph Labrecque (CMCI)
Mike McDevitt (CMCI)
Amanda Schaetzel (IPHY)
David Slayden (APRD)
Alex Sweetman (AAH)

Student representative:

Michael Schneider, graduate student in computer science and Educational Data Analyst

OIT and Administration Resources:

Marin Stanek, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer
Elizabeth Romero Fuerte, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Assistant Vice Provost for Academic and Learning Technologies, Office of Information Technology (OIT)
Kirk Ambrose, Faculty Director, Center for Teaching and Learning
Amanda McAndrew, ASSETT Manager, Center for Teaching and Learning
Robert McDonald, Dean of University Libraries, Senior Vice Provost of Online and Extended Education
Orrie Gartner, Associate Vice Chancellor and Deputy CIO, OIT

Meeting dates: 9/26/22; 10/24/22; 11/28/22; 02/13/23; 03/13/23; 04/10/23; 5/1/23

Overview of Committee Work and Accomplishments

The BFA Academic Technology and Services Committee (ATSC), formerly the Administrative Services and Technology Committee (ATSC), held monthly meetings via Zoom to examine a variety of topics associated with academic technologies impacting faculty and students on campus. AY22-23 marked even greater collaboration between ATSC, CTL, and OIT in particular, as well as other campus entities. Meetings included guest presentations from a variety of campus groups, including OIT and CURC, Libraries, Auxiliary Services, the Digital Accessibility Office, CTL/ASSETT, and others, followed by discussion and input by committee members. A brief overview of the main topics of discussion in AY22-23 are summarized below.

Change to committee name and updated charge

In AY21-22, the committee reviewed its charges and discussed updates to both its charge and the committee's name. Revisions included more explicit emphasis on academic technologies for teaching, research, and service; including the ethical, equitable and secure use of technology; as well as data management and privacy issues; and the inclusion of online and remote education. A motion to rename the committee and update its charge was voted on and approved by the full BFA Assembly in November, 2022.

Welcoming new AVC/AVP for Academic Technology and Student Success (ATSS)

The committee welcomed UCB's new Assistant Vice Chancellor and Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Technology and Student Success, Elizabeth Romero Fuerte, and began working closely with her in the Fall semester. The ATSC chair served on the search committee for the hire, and also began meeting with the AVP/AVC biweekly to facilitate timely communication between OIT and the BFA.

OIT and CTL collaborations

OIT representatives informed and updated the committee on many upcoming technology changes including: Google's required storage reduction and OIT's plans to facilitate that process for the campus, VOIP to Teams transition, transition to a new video streaming platform (Yuga), student-centered Canvas Grading (part of the BUS initiative), the [Secure Computing Project](#), IT Standards & Foundational Services Policy, among other topics.

In fall 2022, the committee also encouraged OIT to utilize it as a sounding board to preview communications and provide feedback. OIT took advantage of this offer and requested and received committee feedback on a number of communications, including an [FAQ](#) for faculty on the VOIP to Teams phone transition, OIT's revised service scope document, the Secure Computing Project, Student Data and OIT Services webpage, and OIT's presentation on the Google storage reduction in advance of it being presented to the full BFA General Assembly. OIT also requested input on timeline for the transition to a new video streaming platform.

ChatGPT

The committee also responded to the sudden appearance of ChatGPT to consider its impact on higher ed in the early Spring semester. The committee met with several campus experts, and ultimately conversations led to a series of Town Halls in a collaboration between CTL, BFA, OIT, and the Honor Code Advisory Board (HCAB) to explore various aspects of this emerging technology, including its potential uses and misuses. The committee plans to continue to follow this in future, along with OIT and CTL.

Looking to the future

Discussions surrounding emerging technologies also encouraged the committee to begin discussing how to be more proactive in anticipating campus technology needs, rather than reactive. Several options including a potential town hall, faculty survey, or faculty scholars program were discussed with input from the CTL and OIT.

Libraries

The committee was also informed of the new [Library Services Platform and Catalog Project](#) by Dean McDonald and Jamie Wittenberg, Assistant Dean for Digital Strategy and Information Technology Services and asked to provide feedback.

Center for Teaching and Learning/ASSETT - Faculty Training and Support

Kirk Ambrose, Faculty Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), and Amanda McAndrew, ASSETT Manager of CTL notified the committee of the upcoming [Innovation Incubator](#) 2023 call for proposals, and discussed how the process had been modified from its first iteration.

Testing and Assessment Center (TAC)

In response to receiving faculty questions regarding hours and staffing of the Testing and Assessment Center (TAC) in Fall 2022, after the departure of the head of TAC, the committee reached out to the Assistant Director of Academic Resources and eCommerce to stay abreast of TAC staffing and availability, and to pass that information along to the BFA.

Summary

AY22-23 marked even greater collaboration between ATSC, CTL, and OIT in particular, as well as other campus entities. During the 2022-2023 academic year, the BFA Academic Technology and Services committee served to support faculty and students in the following topical areas: (a) updating its charge and committee name; (b) Google-required storage reduction; (c) VOIP to Teams transition; (d) Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) and ASSETT resources; (e) Secure Computing Project; (f) student-centered Canvas grading; (g) ChatGPT. The 2023-24 academic year will see continued work in these and related areas.