

DELIT Annual Report

Nicole Kraft, Chair 2019–2020

Duties and Responsibilities 3335–5–48.2(B)

The Council on Distance Education, Libraries, and Information Technology has the responsibility under University Rule 3335-5-48.2(B) to:

- (1) Formulate policies governing the delivery of distance education and educational and research activities and services of libraries and information technology.
- (2) Assist in the interpretation of distance education, library, and information technology services to the university community.
- (3) Assist in the presentation of major distance education, library and information technology needs to the university administration.
- (4) Advise the appropriate administrative office on the appointment of the associate vice president for distance education, the director of university libraries, and the chief information officer.

Membership 3335-5-48.2(A)

The Council consists of sixteen members:

- (1) eight faculty (at least seven tenure-track faculty),
- (2) three students,
- (3) four administrators (or their designees), and
- (4) one staff member, appointed by the university staff advisory council.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, the membership was as follows.

Emily Buck, Faculty Council, Vice Chair, 2021

Teng Leng Ooi, Faculty Council, 2022

Neelam Soundarajan, Faculty Council, 2021

Avraham Benatar, Faculty Council, 2020

Celia Wills, Faculty Council, 2020

Jim Fowler, Faculty Council, 2020

Julie Fox, Faculty Council, 2020

Nicole Kraft, Faculty Council, 2022

Austin Hilvert, USG, 2020

Salha Sassi, CGS, 2020

Candace Park, IPC, 2020

Sarah Dawson, Staff Member - USAC, 2020

Rachel Nash, Grad School Dean / Designee

Damon Jaggars, Libraries Director

Liv Gjestvang, AVP Learning Technology

Mike Hofherr, CIO

John Heimaster (chair of the Research Computing Committee) has been invited to all DELIT meetings and continues to offer valuable input.

We are also grateful for the assistance and expertise of Jenna Price, who served as the council secretary.

## **Activities in 2019–2020**

DELIT met eight times during the 2018–2019 academic year, namely September 2019, October 2019, November 2019, January 2020, February 2020, March 2020, April 2020 and in May 2020.

In an effort to spur greater interest and attendance among membership, this year DELIT members self-identified into one of three themed teams, which spent the year addressing challenges related to:

1. Data Privacy
2. Mental Health and Technology
3. Carmen Common Sense

There were two two-hour work sessions around these topics (October and February). The remaining sessions the group met as a whole on key areas related to these topics and engaged with ODEE staff on initiatives related to our mission. Some meetings brought in outside individuals to provide updates within DELIT's purview, enabling the Council's members to assist in the interpretation of distance education, library, and information technology services to the university community and also providing Council members with time to present needs to the university administration.

Finally, DELIT became the launch point for many ODEE programs related to the COVID-19-related transition to virtual teaching, as we helped ODEE launch [keep-teaching.osu.edu](http://keep-teaching.osu.edu) and support materials.

### **DATA PRIVACY**

This working group, led by Chief Privacy Officer Holly Drake contained 40 students, faculty and staff, and convened bi-weekly over the course of the year. The team's key activity included Data Privacy Day Jan. 28, which attracted 80 participants. They also held events subsequent to Data Privacy Day focused on practicing privacy impact assessments in smaller groups. Two planned events were canceled due to pandemic restrictions.

Holly also met with the Faculty Senate Chairs and the University Senate to discuss the program [privacy@ohiostate](mailto:privacy@ohiostate).

The team completed a near-final draft of the updated web privacy statement for Ohio State webpages.

### **MENTAL HEALTH**

The Mental Health Committee had two related goals: identify ways to use technology to support mental health and wellness for the student body at Ohio State and identify ways to support healthy, sustainable, effective relationships to technology for students, faculty and staff.

The committee reviewed and contributed feedback to the Ohio State Wellness App, which launched in January 2020 on iOS and in April 2020 on Android. The App features content designed for students, with information about a collection of mental health concerns for students with links to support resources, as well as rotating content related to academic pressures, sexual health, relationship violence, managing stress and many other areas.

The committee determined that it would be valuable to draft a set of strategies, in the style of Carmen Common Sense, to help students, faculty and staff recognize best practices for managing healthy relationships to technology. The group consulted with Claire Kamp Dush and explored resources below. Resources

### **CARMEN COMMON SENSE**

DELIT continued its significant focus on Carmen adoption and usage, and the impact on students. We continued our work with USG to remedy inconsistent Carmen usage among courses and faculty, and progressive opportunities for Carmen engagement through “Carmen Common Sense.” As a result, a Carmen Common Sense Award was created to honor eight faculty who best exemplify usage of Carmen. In addition, we developed with UITL an instructional redesign program around Carmen Common Sense that is being taught in a cohort model in May 2020. The program will be expanded through incorporation with ODEE’s [keepteaching.osu.edu](http://keepteaching.osu.edu) resources.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

DELIT continued to be involved in Buckeyepass, also known as DUO, the multifactor authentication service to secure Carmen, Buckeye Box and BuckeyeLink access. We served as an advisory on expanded usage, which will now include email.

## **VIRTUAL OHIO STATE**

In March 2020, when the campus turned our attention to supporting the transition to remote teaching due to COVID-19, DELIT became engaged in the rapid decision making that help transition Ohio State to a virtual learning environment. We will continue to be involved in this efforts throughout the summer and into the fall.

## **DIGITAL HOME**

DELIT was briefed on the “Digital Home,” a resource for faculty/staff/students to access summary information and other university systems. We will continue to monitor as it gets closer to launch in the next academic year.

## **LIBRARY RESOURCES**

With the changes to the General Education courses, DELIT will continue to work with the library on making accessible and affordable textbooks for GE classes placed on library reserve. We will also be continuing to examine use of e-textbooks and how restraints from licensing issues can be overcome, especially in light of Digital Flagship and iPad utilization. We will also continue working with the library to make any required transitions related to future COVID-19-related issues.

## **ACADEMIC PUBLISHING**

DELIT continues to work with the Libraries to identify issues where students can save money, including discussions around digital textbooks and electronic journal publishing conducted at the university.

## **RESEARCH COMPUTING**

John W. Heimaster kept DELIT abreast of research computing engagements at the university . Research is, of course, a primary mission of the university, funded at over \$900 million per year. John continues to attend our monthly sessions and provide a much-needed voice on issues in this area as they arise.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Nicole Kraft was re-elected chair for the 2020–2021 academic year. Emily Buck is vice chair.

DELIT continues to have significant issues with attendance this academic year. This was discussed with Ben Givens, and he and the chair attempted to stimulate participation to little avail. It is hoped that the new committee makeup will include more engaged members, to join the core attendees.

The next academic year promises to be a busy one, with continued discussions around the transition to virtual learning in the event of future pandemic challenges, as well as Carmen Common Sense, Digital Flagship, privacy policy, data security affordability, accessibility and library resources.