

DELIT Annual Report

Jim Fowler, Chair

2017–2018

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 2017–2018 academic year, the membership was as follows.

Emily Buck expires 2021	<i>ACEL</i> , Faculty Council
Neelam Soundarajan expires 2021 ...	<i>Computer Science & Engineering</i> , Faculty Council
Avraham Benatar expires 2020	<i>Materials Science Engineering</i> , Faculty Council
Celia Wills expires 2020	<i>College of Nursing</i> , Faculty Council
Jim Fowler (Chair) expires 2020	<i>Mathematics</i> , Faculty Council
Julie Fox expires 2020	<i>Central Region OSU Extension</i> , Faculty Council
Nicole Kraft (Vice-Chair) expires 2019	<i>School of Communication</i> , Faculty Council
Terry Reese expires 2019	<i>Information Technology</i> , Faculty Council
Kimmy Sullivan expires 2019	<i>Political Science</i> , USG
Julie Dentzer expires 2018	<i>History of Art</i> , CGS
Peter Yu expires 2018	<i>Medicine</i> , IPC
Sarah Dawson expires 2020	<i>HR Administration</i> , USAC Staff Member
Kathleen Wallace	Grad School Dean/Designee
Damon Jaggars	Libraries Director
Liv Gjestvang	AVP Distance Education
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 Elaine Pritchard, who served as the council secretary.

DELIT observes that, by rule 3335–5–48.2(A)(d), the “associate vice president for distance education” is a member of the Council, but Liv Gjestvang’s working title is now “AVP Learning Technology.” **A change to Rules is recommended to remedy this.**

Activities in 2017–2018

DELIT met eight times during the 2017–2018 academic year, namely September 2017, October 2017, November 2017, January 2018, February 2018, March 2018, April 2018, and finally remotely by Zoom teleconference in May 2018.

Bylaws, which serve to formalize the process for voting by e-mail and codify the precedent of electing a vice-chair, were approved by the Council.

Most 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.

Policies

DELIT provided feedback on the planned revisions to the Web Accessibility policy and provided feedback to IPPC reiterating OCIO's intellectual property concerns around instructional materials. DELIT also provided feedback to the OCIO for the handling the management and deletion of email for separated employees.

Distance Education

December 2018 marked the fifth year of ODEE (Office of Distance Education and e-Learning). Ohio State now has 24 approved online programs with ≈ 1000 online program students. DELIT views Ohio State's work on Distance Education as a success. A question this year was whether publishing companies should be used to assist with the advising of distance students.

Members of DELIT shared concerns from their constituents about the Digital Flagship initiative; helpful feedback from the administration was shared with concerned constituents.

Libraries

The Library presented its focus areas and strategic directions. DELIT praised the Library's website redesign and new comprehensive search features. DELIT discussed open textbook initiatives, affordability, and Ohio State Library's open access publishing initiative for disseminating humanities and humanistic social science scholarship.

Information Technology

DELIT was updated on the changes and challenges to the dossier system *Vita* and the roll-out of electronic lab notebooks.

A subset of DELIT met with Randy Smith in May 2018 to discuss how to include data science in the undergraduate and graduate curriculum. Follow-up meetings continued into Summer 2018.

Goals for 2018–2019

Nicole Kraft was elected chair for the 2018–2019 academic year.

The next academic year promises to be a busy one, with continued discussions around Digital Flagship, around the strategic plan and focus areas for the Library, Carmen, affordability, accessibility, Unizin. There will be new topics too: certificate programs, flexible classrooms, goals around the expansion of such classrooms, and the roll-out of Amazon AWS.

In Autumn 2017, DELIT discussed the need for a policy around the adoption of external e-Learning tools, and in 2018–2019, that discussion is likely to continue, along with the creation of a requirements document detailing the needs of a STEM-based assessment tool.