

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(Final; Information)

IT.23.10 2022-2023 Annual Report of the Senate Committee on Information Technology

This report summarizes the activities of the Senate Committee on Information Technology (IT) during the 2022-2023 academic year. IT met on September 23, October 14, November 4, December 2, January 13, February 3, March 3, and March 31. More detailed information is provided in the minutes of those meetings.

I. ITEMS REMOVED BY THE COMMITTEE

**IT.18.03, Qualtrics Licensing**

In late 2022, a new contract was signed with Qualtrics for site wide licensing with access through a new UIUC Qualtrics portal. The Center for Innovations in Teaching & Learning (CITL) will manage the service and help units that hold current contracts to migrate to the new system. Technology Services will fund the first year of the contract.

**IT.23.01, Canvas: Class Roster Issues**

Canvas is a learning management system (LMS) that provides one location to access information that includes course syllabus, assignments, and grades. Faculty and students experienced various issues with Canvas prior to the beginning of the fall semester. An undocumented conflict was discovered after a manual upload of course and roster information, which caused students to be dropped from rosters. This will not be an issue moving forward as manual uploads will no longer be done.

**IT.23.02, Update on IT Operational Excellence**

Work continues to move forward on IT Operational Excellence. The purpose of this initiative is to increase efficiency, decrease administrative overhead, and invest in innovation. Goals include putting the end-user first, communication, and training. A draft of an enterprise service catalog, which features a map of all IT services, who the service is provided by, and how the service is supported, was completed in January 2023.

**IT.23.03, Notification of Enrollment Changes in Banner**

Integration has been established between Banner, a commercial Enterprise Resource Planning system designed specifically for higher education, and Canvas. Banner registration data is updated to Canvas rosters within 2 hours. If a student drops a course, they are removed from the active banner of students but can still be found under “previous student.”

#### **IT.23.04, Discussion of Privacy Concerns on Rokwire and Student Success Initiative**

Rokwire is an open-source software used to build mobile apps. The Illinois App is the official campus app for the university community (student body, faculty and staff, alumni and visitors) and is powered by Rokwire. William Sullivan, Director, Smart Campus Initiative; Director, Rokwire, and Philip Reiter, Associate Director of Privacy, Technology Services provided information on privacy matters as related to Rokwire and the Illinois App.

#### **IT.23.05 Update on Inclusive Access at Illinois**

Inclusive Access is a pilot program designed to promote student success through earlier access to lower-cost classroom materials. Digital Rights Management (DRM) will be managed by Redshelf, a platform that provides digital textbooks. Canvas will be used as the Learning Management System (LMS). Several units including the Registrar, Financial Aid, Provost, Bursar, Technology Services, Administrative Information Technology (AITS), and the Illini Union have been working together in hopes of launching the pilot program with five courses this fall.

#### **IT.23.06, Discussion of New NIH Data Requirements**

New National Institutes of Health (NIH) data requirements went into effect January 25, 2023. Submission of a Data Management and Sharing Plan is required, and compliance is monitored through NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices (ICO).

#### **IT.23.07, Discussion of ICES Online Forms**

The Instructor & Course Evaluation System (ICES) is the official end-of-course student ratings system used to evaluate instructor and course effectiveness for both faculty and teaching assistants. ICES online has a 38% - 45% response rate.

### **II. ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE**

#### **IT.23.08, Discussion on Overleaf**

A general discussion was held on Overleaf, a collaborative cloud-based LaTeX editor used for writing, editing, and publishing scientific documents, and the possibility of making it available with a campus wide license.

#### **IT.23.09, Discussion on Bot Attacks**

A general discussion was held on what possible resources are available to prevent or manage possible bot attacks. Mairead Martin, Chief Information Officer, Technology Services, indicated that a knowledge-based article will be created and then shared with the committee.

### **III. IT ALSO RECEIVED UPDATES FROM *EX OFFICIOS* RELATING TO THEIR RESPECTIVE UNITS BUT NOT COVERED BY SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **1. Update from University Library**

Christopher Prom, Interim Dean of Libraries and University Librarian, presented an

update on services and strategies offered by the University Library. Several system and campus services are leveraged, including network services, infrastructure services and endpoint management services. The University Library also offers library centric services that include Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI) and loanable technology and technology spaces.

**2. Update from Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL)**

Michel Bellini, Director, Center for Innovation and Teaching in Learning, presented an update on CITL. CITL supports faculty in their needs for multimedia, technologies, course design, pedagogies, and analytics. CITL’s involvement also includes the creation of online courses, scaling up online education, as well as innovations that includes Immersive Technologies and AI-Driven Solutions.

**3. Update from Administrative Information Technology Services (AITS)**

Kelly Block, Associate VP, Administrative Information Technology Services, System Offices, presented an update on AITS. AITS provides enterprise-scale IT services that enable UI System-wide business processes and decision making to students, staff, faculty, and the state-wide community. AITS also helps streamline business processes, supports data-driven decision making, optimizes existing system and replace inferior systems, invests in people through learning opportunities, engagement, and fulfillment, and modernizes aging infrastructures to meet current needs.

**4. Update from National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA)**

Daniel Katz, Chief Scientist, NCSA, presented an update on NCSA. NCSA leads and supports partnerships to solve the most scientifically and societally important challenges and problems. NCSA is committed to research computing for the entire UIUC campus and UI system. Collaborating with NCSA includes having access to expert technical staff, resources for computing, software, and data, and research consulting.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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