November 20th, 2024

Attendees: it-steering-group@umbc.edu
MEETING MINUTES

1. Instructional Technology efforts
   a. Ultra migration & training
      i. UMBC reaches 99.6% of Fall 24 courses on Ultra

Nearing the end of the ULTRA migration in Blackboard. 99.6% of the courses are using ULTRA.

      ii. DoIT Support for Collaborate Will End in Summer 25

We are ending support of Collaborate video editing software. MS Teams, Google Meet, Webex and Zoom are being used instead.

   b. Ally Tableau project (VPN req'd) in support of Accessibility

We will start using Ally more and more.

   c. Quality Matters Impact (QMI) update (CFP Due 12/6)
Call for proposal for QM Impact course certification. For learning to teach online. 4 spots available.

2. DoIT AI Planning

Differences between AI helper and AI Assistance.
AI Helper + Improving student self-service through AI and Improving the productivity and answers of support staff answering tickets through AI
AI Assistance - Assistance for specialized administrative functions (payroll, travel, technology) and specialized academic functions.
AI Helper is used in myUMBC Search Box. We are starting to use it to build AI into the RT system, and we will be hiring a new contingent employee to help with this.

AMplify AI, Microsoft, and Google are all recommended solutions with security and privacy controls to protect UMBC information.
Invite DoIT to your department to see how AI can make you more productive. (NESS?)

3. Software licensing and updates   Jack Suess
   a. Overleaf partnership with COEIT

Overleaf is a product that is heavily used in the science IT area for publications. Collaborate writing, papers etc.

        i.   UMBC [Overleaf portal](#)

   b. Canva partnership with UCM
      i.   Site license for students
      ii.   Approximately 250 licenses for staff/faculty
            1. Jill Blum in UCM can add faculty/staff (there will be a charge)

Slide decks, etc., will grant all students access to Canva. Sign in through SSI

   c. [Mathematica](#) challenges with Wolfram

  4. Short Announcements (links to news articles)
     a. Research Computing
        i.   December 2, 2024 - New Chip Cluster released for faculty testing
        ii.   December 16, 2024 - New GPU's added to Ada Cluster
        iii.   January 20, 2025 - New Ceph Storage is available
     b. UMBC joins [Consortium of Cybersecurity Clinics](#)

Future topics:
January - Software licensing with the new Executive Director of Procurement
       myUMBC - conversations with departments
February - cybersecurity master plan
       Accessibility planning
Spring - Extending second factor to all users - passkeys project
Spring - Changes to Blackboard rostering & Final grade submission
Spring - Privacy Policy