

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE
Vice Provost Laurie J. Kirsch, Chair
January 16, 2020

Minutes

Present: L. Kirsch (Chair), C. Golden, N. Benedict, B. Falcione (via zoom), T. Haley (via zoom), G. Hamad, R. Jones, H. Lee, A. Lotz, C. Perfetti, A. Sved and L. Wang

Welcome and Introductions

Laurie Kirsch called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and welcomed members.

Approval of Minutes

Laurie asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the ACIE meeting held on October 31, 2019 – distributed in advance of the meeting. The motion was offered by Cynthia Golden, seconded by Lu-in Wang, and approved by the Council. The minutes will be posted on the ACIE website.

Innovation in Education Awards: Proposal Review Process

Laurie informed Council members that the Office of the Provost sent out the call for proposals for the Innovation in Education Awards in mid-late November and the deadline is January 31, 2020. Laurie gave a broad overview of the process and schedule.

As a first step, the University Center for Teaching and Learning staff will review the proposals and conduct a feasibility assessment. Their reviews will be added to the Box account.

Once the Teaching Center has completed its technical reviews, each Council member will be asked to review several proposals so that each proposal will be reviewed by multiple Council members.

In mid-February, the Council will be contacted with which proposals they have been assigned to review, and will be given access to the Box account containing the proposals and the Teaching Center's technical reviews. Review forms will also be provided to Council members.

Council reviews must be completed between mid-February and early March, with completed reviews submitted to Jaime Wesoloski. Jaime will then compile the scores and proposal information into a spreadsheet, which will be uploaded to the Box account.

At the March 26 Council meeting, all proposals will be discussed. Council members are encouraged to review all proposals, if possible, to participate in the discussions during the March 26 meeting. During the meeting, Council will determine the set of proposals to recommend to the Provost for funding. It is anticipated that the award winners will be notified by April 1.

Assessment of Teaching Update

Laurie reminded Council members that Provost Cudd charged last year's Council with providing recommendations to the Provost about expanding the ways in which teaching is assessed across the University. Laurie summarized the October 2019 meeting with the Provost, during which the ACIE report was discussed as well as next steps.

Laurie informed Council that the report was subsequently presented to the Council of Deans and there was a robust discussion about the recommendations at that meeting. Council of Deans expressed general support of the guiding principles and recommendations in the report and broke into small groups to discuss the plan for moving forward with the recommendations. From the Council of Deans discussion, it became clear that some academic units have already made progress consistent with the reports' recommendations. It also became clear that the timeline for implementation will vary across units, with more time likely needed for large units. Implementation details are still being worked out between the Office of the Provost and the Council of Deans, with the Teaching Center lending support.

Chuck asked if there would be examples of plans that schools could use as resources. Laurie indicated that the Office of the Provost would like to share best practices through several mechanisms, including a website and possibly some type of University-wide summit. The Teaching Center will also look into sharing samples/templates.

Update on Teaching Center Activities

Cynthia Golden presented a PowerPoint to the Council outlining the University Center for Teaching and Learning's major activities and updates. She also introduced Lorna Kearns and Mike Areth, staff members from the University Center for Teaching and Learning, who provided brief updates on the rollout of Canvas and the Course Incubator initiative, respectively. A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

Next Meeting

The process and timeline for reviewing the Innovation in Education Award proposals will also be reviewed again at the next ACIE meeting.

The next meeting of ACIE is scheduled for Monday, February 17, 2020 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., in 815 Alumni Hall.

Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.



University Center for
Teaching and Learning

Update to ACIE

January 16, 2020

Cynthia Golden, Assoc. Vice Provost and Executive Director

Michael Arenth, Director of Educational Technology

Lorna Kearns, Director of Next Generation Learning Initiatives

Today

- Canvas Project
- Course Incubator Project
- Miscellaneous Updates



Pitt UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR
TEACHING AND LEARNING
June 10, 2019

- Teaching Support
- Educational Technology
- Online and Hybrid Learning
- Assessment
- Classrooms and Learning Environments
- Academic Services
- ~65 FTE, ~40 students, plus post-docs, contractors
- Alumni Hall, SIS Building, Cathedral, Hillman Library

About Us

Summer 2019

Canvas Planning
and Testing

Fall 2019

Blackboard Primary LMS
Canvas Limited Release

Spring 2020

Blackboard Primary LMS
Canvas Expanded Release

Summer 2020

All Courses in Canvas

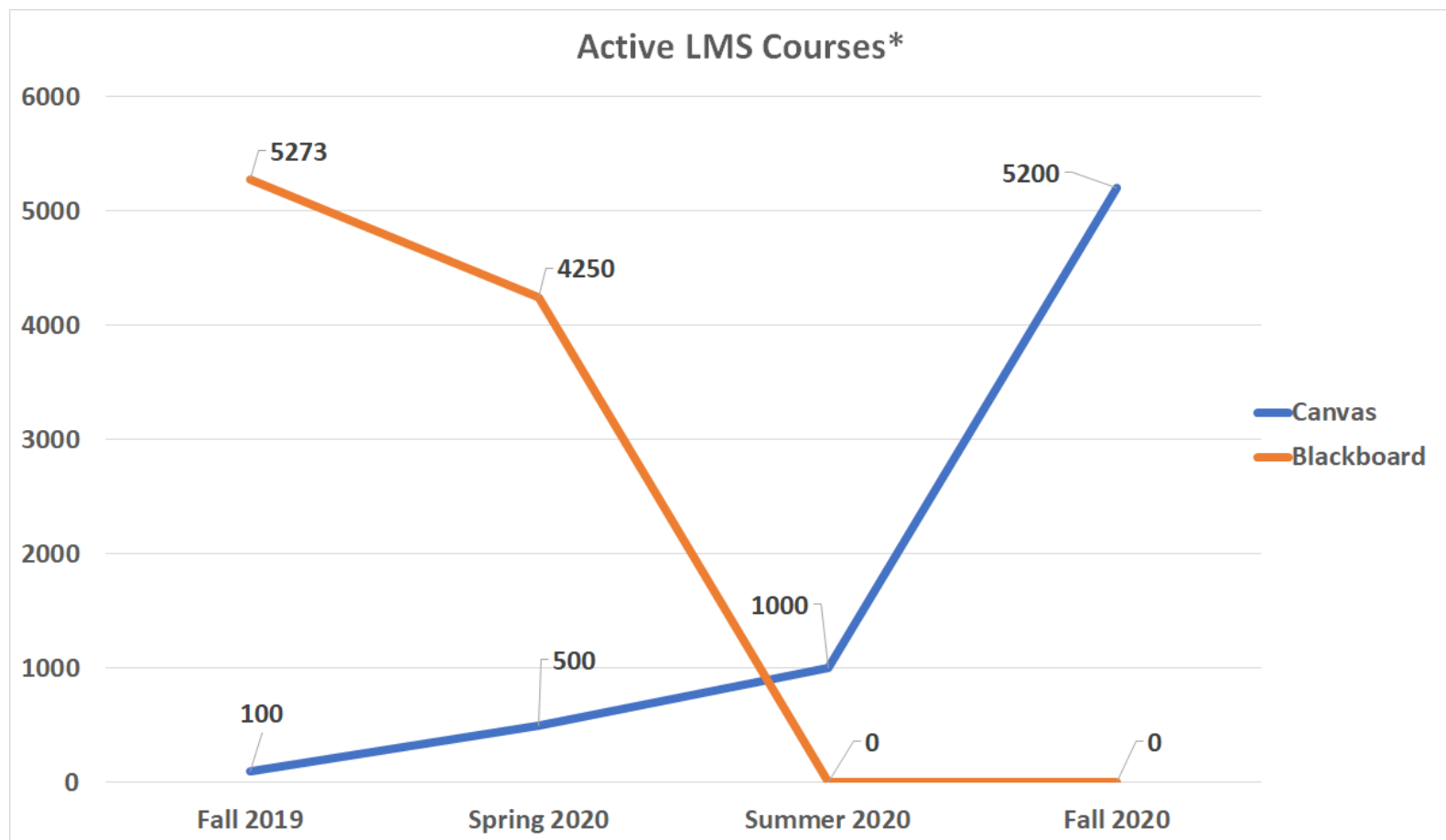
Implementation timeline and key dates

- Early December 2019 – 5,000+ demo courses were created for all faculty and TAs
- Mid-December 2019 – Training opportunities were expanded to all faculty, and will continue on a regular basis through the summer
- Mid-January 2020 - imported Blackboard content will be available in Canvas from the summer 2018 term (2187) through the fall 2019 terms (2201)
- Late January 2020 - official summer courses will be available
- Early May 2020 – active instruction in Blackboard ends
- June 12, 2020 – faculty and student direct access to Blackboard ends

Scaling Up



canvas



*estimated for Fall 2019/Spring 2020, and anticipated for Summer/Fall 2020 based on previous terms in Blackboard



canvas

Other Canvas resources



24/7 support directly from Canvas is available via phone, email, and chat for all Pitt faculty, staff, and students



LMS Consulting team available M-F 8:30-5:00 via LMS@teaching.pitt.edu, (412) 648-2832, or visit B23 Alumni Hall



Regular training opportunities open to all faculty, will continue in months ahead



Self-service resources in the Pitt Canvas Learning Center: <https://canvas.pitt.edu/courses/643>

Canvas conversion: what you need to know

Most recent updates, FAQs,
training schedule and request
forms are always be available at
<https://teaching.pitt.edu/canvas/>



canvas

Canvas – early adopter experience

- Fall 2019 term (2201):
 - ~100 faculty, representing all of our campuses and all schools here at the Pittsburgh campus
 - Courses and faculty were chosen to represent a variety of disciplines, Canvas experience levels, tool and feature usage, and class sizes
 - 81% of faculty survey respondents compared Canvas favorably to Blackboard
 - We learned a lot from this group, and we've tailored our training offerings based on their experiences
- Spring 2020 term (2204):
 - Nearly all fall 2019 early adopters chose to continue
 - ~185 additional faculty
 - ~125 attended the training opportunities offered by our LMS Consulting team throughout the final weeks of the fall 2019 term
 - These trainings are the same as what is now being offered widely to all faculty



Course Incubator

- Provost-funded initiative to promote innovation among faculty who teach large enrollment classes
- Goal: To increase student engagement by incorporating active learning strategies and improve learning gains

Course Incubator: 2018-2020

Biology

- Intervention: Create materials and conduct activities outside of class to enhance sense of community and belonging among course students.
- Result: Experiments have yielded insights about effective aspects of learning that will be used to further refine interventions.

Chemistry

- Intervention: Conduct large portion of class sessions using structured group learning.
- Result: In a review of final grades among Gen Chem 2 students, those who were enrolled in the Gen Chem 1 group-learning classes outperformed those who were enrolled in the traditional class sections.

Economics

- Intervention: Redesign recitations to incorporate active learning.
- Result: During the semester in which intervention was initiated, under-represented minority students performed about as well as non-URM students for the first time in four fall semesters. The gap between the two groups narrowed substantially.

Course Incubator Call for Proposals announced	September 16, 2019
Initial proposals due	November 4, 2019
Selection of initial proposals announced	January 15, 2020
Final proposals due	March 30, 2020
Selection of final proposals announced	May 4 – May 8, 2020
Work with Teaching Center to develop course transformations	Summer 2020
Work with Teaching Center to implement and assess course transformations	Fall 2020 through Spring 2022

Course Incubator: 2020-2022

Join us on
January 24 at
the U-Club

2020 Assessment and Teaching Conference >>>

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost



University Center for
Teaching and Learning

- January 24, 2020
- Keynote: *The Student-Centered Classroom*, David Laude, UT Austin
- Breakout sessions
- Faculty posters

Register at

www.teaching.pitt.edu

New: Mid-term course survey through OMET



“The students seemed to give more specific feedback in the end-of-term survey this year. I think students recognized that I took the midterm survey results into consideration and changed some things I was doing.”

- Pilot in Fall 2019
 - 88% of faculty made changes to the course based on feedback they received
 - 97% of faculty responded that they will administer midterm surveys in the future
- Available to all faculty in Spring 2020



Technology for Innovation and Exploration: Open Lab

Mission:

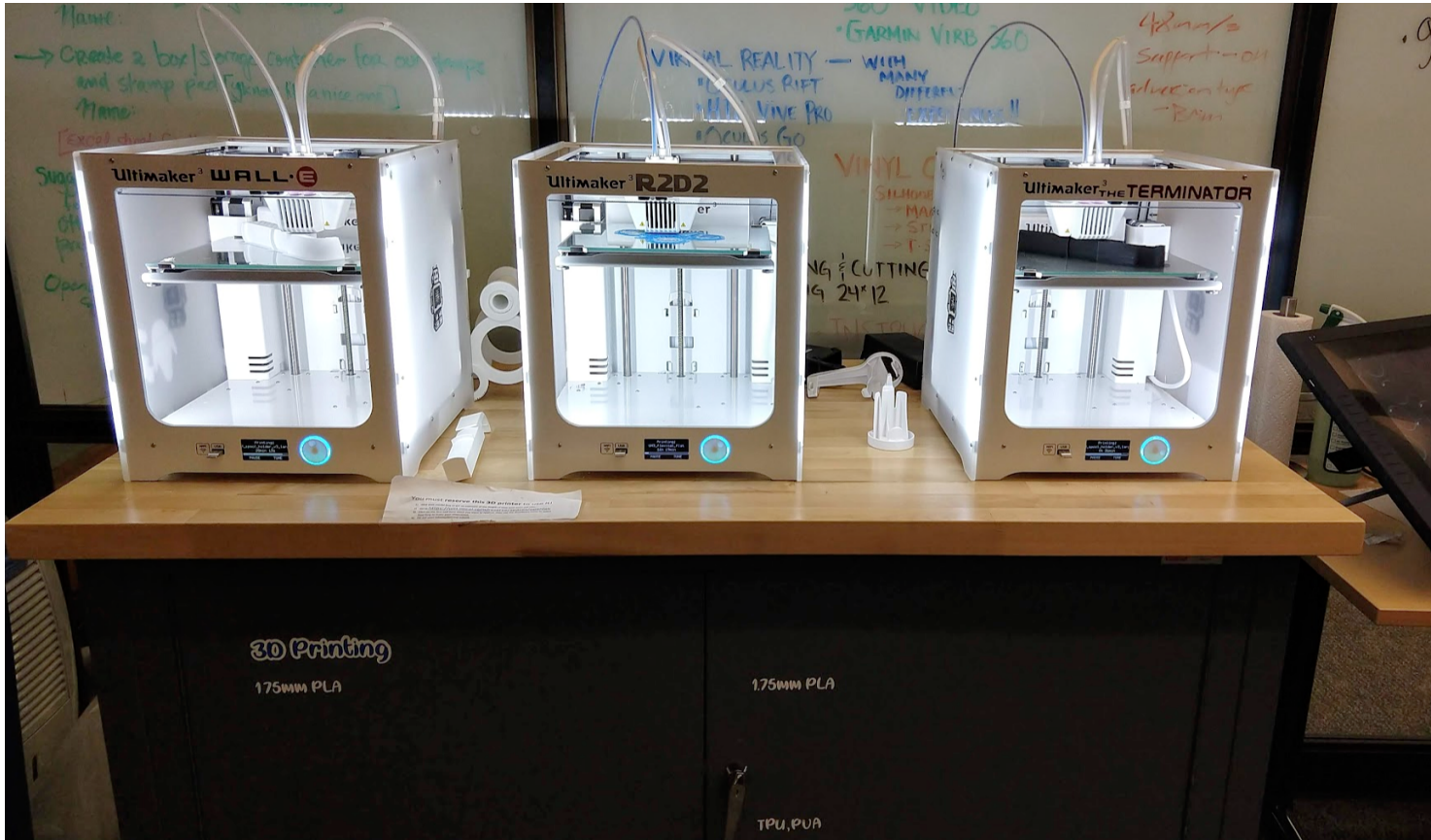
- Support instructors who wish to incorporate emerging technologies into their teaching in an effective, pedagogy-driven manner
- Empower the Pitt community to engage in exploratory learning

Current Technologies:

- Virtual reality
- 360-degree video
- 3D printing
- Vinyl cutting
- Laser cutting and engraving

Our Makerspace Locations:

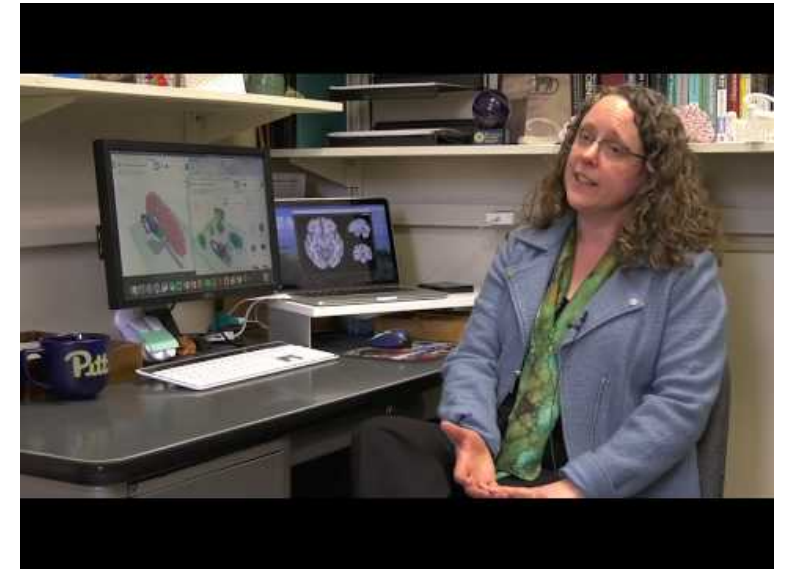
- Alumni Hall, B-12
- Hillman Library, G7
(collaboration with ULS)



Fall 2019 impact:

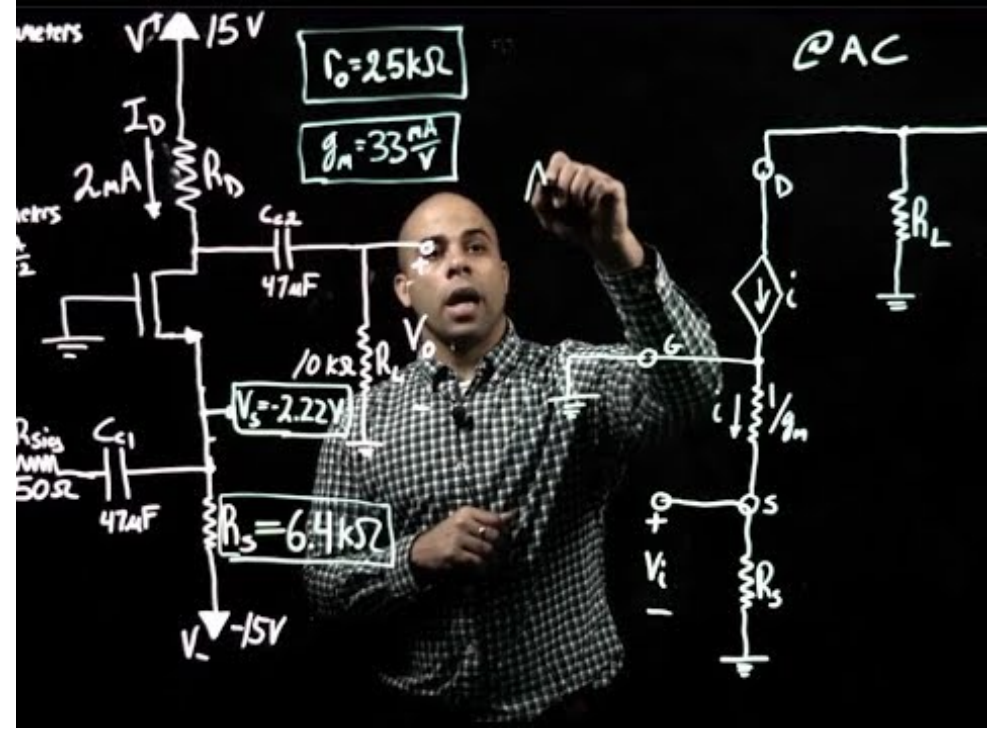
- **1,055** walk-in clients
- **~1,600** freshmen toured via Academic Foundations class
- **676** clients reached via scheduled consultation / learning session
- **42** course-related projects

Technology for Innovation and
Exploration:
Open Lab



Technology for Innovation and Exploration: Open Lab

- Clip - Student Printed 3D Prosthetics at the Open Lab
- Clip - Professor Marcie Persyn incorporates a Virtual Reality activity into her Roman Civilization class
- Clip - Professor Erika Fanselow incorporates a 3D modeling group project into her Functional Neuroanatomy Honors Practicum class
- (Or maybe this segment? -<https://youtu.be/kiVYXnwwwJI?t=176>)



Technology for Innovation and Exploration: Educational Multimedia

- Professors Jeff Aziz and Jason Dechant, along with undergraduate Emma Wolinsky, produce interdisciplinary podcast “Remains to be Seen”
- Professor Sam Dickerson incorporates supplemental videos of solutions to quiz problems into his Digital Circuits and Systems class

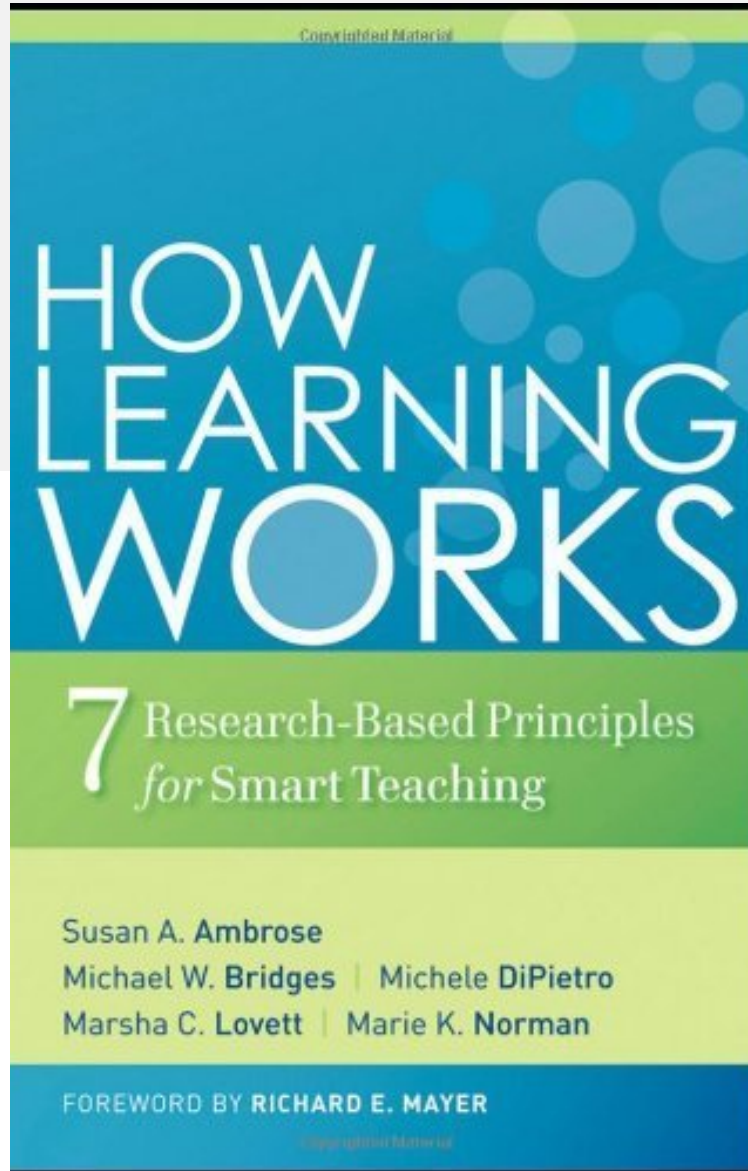
Technology for Innovation and Exploration: Educational Multimedia

- **Faculty Seminar: Multimedia Bootcamp for Interactive Course Design**
 - Instructors who have specific plans to embark on a medium-to-large scale instructional multimedia or interactive project will participate in a hands-on, project-based learning experience.
- **Instructional Multimedia workshops**
 - Introduce instructors to a variety of resources, skills, and strategies for creating effective educational multimedia resources.
 - *Introduction (Multimedia Pedagogy, Software, & Hardware)*
 - *Video creation & sharing w/ Panopto*
 - *Podcasting*
 - *Creating interactive learning resources w/ Adobe Captivate or Articulate Storyline*
 - *Video editing*



Technology for Innovation and Exploration: Learning Spaces

- Upgrades
 - Cathedral of Learning G-8, opened in January 2020



New Director of
Teaching Support
Michael Bridges, Ph.D.

- Starts February 17, 2020
- 25 years in academic strategy, faculty development, assessment, educational technology, and online learning



Teaching Consultations

We can help you to:

- Design your course
- Integrate technology
- Improve your syllabus
- Apply active learning strategies
- Create instructional videos
- Improve teaching evaluations
- Much more...

Workshops – a few Spring 2020 offerings

Introduction to Canvas, Part 1

Encouraging Student Participation

Introduction to Canvas, Part 2

Instructional Media, Introduction

Developing a Teaching Portfolio

Better Grading and Feedback with Gradescope

Teaching International Students

360-degree video workshop

Engage with the Teaching Center



The Teaching Partners <https://teaching.pitt.edu/teachingpartners/>



Newsletter <https://teaching.pitt.edu/newsletter/>



teaching@pitt.edu

Thank you!