***Senate IT Committee* Report**

The Senate IT Committee met on Sept. 11, 2025, at 2pm via Teams. Present were: Sina Shokoohyar (Co-Chair), Bert Wachsmuth (Co-Chair), Dongdong Chen, Moira E Kendra, Leslie Bunnage, Axel Marc Oaks Takacs, Lauren B McFadden, Michael Murphy, Leslie A Rippon, Jason Hemann, Jose L Lopez, as well as Maryellen E Roberts, Senate President, and Michael A Soupios, Director of Digital Media and Web Development.

*Note: this report, as well as other information, can be found at our blog,* [*http://blogs.shu.edu/senateit*](http://blogs.shu.edu/senateit)

**Resurrected Senate IT website:** Dr. Wachsmuth reported that the old Senate IT web site from 2011-2013 had been resurrected for use of the current Senate IT committee. The site was created to be (a) easy to maintain, (b) looking “good enough”, and (c) to be functional. Dr. Roberts asked why the committee does not use a Teams Channel, like some other Senate committees, and pointed out that the web site was never approved by the Senate EC. Dr. Wachsmuth pointed out that a web site is a lot more flexible than a Teams channel; it offers more useful functionality (e.g. embedded pictures and media, ability for everyone to leave (moderated) comments, securely post confidential documents while leaving the bulk of the information available to anyone, and more). We will request approval of the site “post facto”, otherwise switch to a Teams Channel.

**Redesign of the ground floor of the library:** Mike Soupios reported on the current status of the expansion of the TLTC, and the redesign of the ground floor of the library. He described some of the new capabilities of the TLTC, such as open study lounge, a Maker Studio with 11 3D Printers and a mini C&C Machine, an XR/AR/VR Studio including 24 Meta Pro virtual/artificial reality Headsets, and dedicated content creation spaces, such as a Recording Studio, three Podcast Studios, the ability to do green screen film projects, and the availability of tech support via a “Genius Bar” and more. Several committee members had questions for Mr. Soupios. Dr. Wachsmuth thanked Mr Soupios and encouraged everyone to check out the new capabilities in person and to find ways to use the new technology so that this project is going to be successful. More info can be found at the [renovation-for-new-innovation hub](https://www.shu.edu/news/renovation-for-new-innovation-hub). The space is still under construction (but already partially usable) and will fully open for business around November of this year.

**MISO Surveys:** Mr. Soupios then briefly mentioned that a MISO (Measuring Information Service Outcomes) survey recently went out to measure the satisfaction of faculty with the offerings of IT. This survey was a slight departure from our usual Faculty and Student IT surveys that we used to conduct every 2 years in conjunction with IT, but have not done for a while. This survey will obtain data comparable across institutions. Mike promised to come back once the results were available and introduce the outcomes to the committee.

**Online courses**: Dr. Wachsmuth announced the availability of our research on our peer institutions’ use of online course, available on our blog at [Docs/Info](https://blogs.shu.edu/senateit/docs-info/); we encourage everyone to review this interesting information. Dr. Wachsmuth asked Dr. Roberts, who chaired the TLTR last year and was running the working group on Online Courses about any updates she could provide regarding the status of online courses. She said that much of the work of the committee focused on Quality Control issues and are currently under consideration by the administration.

**AI:** The rest of the time was spent on our priority topic: AI. Dr. Wachsmuth introduced the major AI apps Open AI’s ChatGPT ([www.chatgpt.com](http://www.chatgpt.com)), Google’s Gemini (<gemini.google.com/app>), and Microsoft’s Copilot (<http://copilot.microsoft.com>) as well as the specialized AI cateCBT ([www.cateCBT.com),that](http://)www.cateCBT.com), that was trained on Catholic writing only. Dr. Takacs then reported on his experience attending a recent workshop by the CFD about AI. We briefly talked about the need to establish a university-wide policy on AI, and Dr. Wachsmuth [showed](https://www.thesify.ai/blog/gen-ai-policies-of-the-worlds-top-universities) that all of the top 20 academic institutions in the world have such a policy, usually pretty vague and leaving the last decision to individual faculty members. He pointed out [research by UNESCO](https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/unesco-survey-less-10-schools-and-universities-have-formal-guidance-ai) that found in a global survey of over 450 schools and universities that fewer than 10% of them have developed institutional policies and/or formal guidance concerning the use of generative AI. We are planning to continue this discussion about AI and a potential policy for Seton Hall on AI during our next meetings.

The remaining agenda items (High Performance Computing HPC, Email policies, proper configuration of PageUp hiring portal), were moved to the next committee meeting on Oct. 09 from 2 to 3pm via Teams.

The meeting was adjourned at 3pm. If you have comments, edits, or additions - please let me know (or post them directly on our web site).

Respectfully submitted,
 *Bert Wachsmuth*