CASL Meeting #11 Minutes

April 7, 2023

2:00PM – 3:00PM

Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Jeannine Coburn (chair, acting secretary), Paul Reilly, Jim Doyle, Greg Snoddy, Arne Gericke, Arnold Lane, LeeAnn LeClerc (2:30 PM, guest)

Call to Order: 2:02PM

Approval of minutes from previous meetings was tabled due to lack of a quorum.

Dean Gericke updated on the status of tracking students that are struggling academically. Instructors only know how students are doing in their courses. Something that tracks a student across all their courses would be able to capture students that are at risk of NR'ing across multiple courses and allow the Care Team to support the student. IT is looking into options that may work across Canvas course sites to flag students struggling academically in more than one course. This may be pilot testing in A-term in first-year courses only with instructors that provide consent. The need to coordinate with CITP was discussed.

Prof. Coburn provided a brief status update on the WPI Graduate Programs - advising survey. The survey was recently circulated, with the support of CGSR and the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies, and a more detailed update will be provided at the next meeting. Discussion ensued around the Provost appointee to CASL, and perhaps someone from Graduate Studies should be the appointee or, at a minimum, someone from Graduate Studies is invited on a standing basis this coming academic year while CASL works on this task.

Invited speaker discussion

LeeAnn LeClerc, Chief Information Security Officer, discussed with CASL concerns around the visibility of data in portal.azure.com WPI's Azure Active Directory environment for all @wpi.edu users. This information includes relevant data about students, such as their dorm information. Additionally, if someone were to look at changes of name data across time, they could easily identify users that have undergone a preferred name change (where that user may not want that information to be known.). Students and some staff have expressed concerns about this data availability. LeeAnn LeClerc showed the committee how this information is accessed and readily available to @wpi.edu users. Azure is not currently in compliance with FERPA. CASL members expressed concerns not only about student information but all @wpi.edu users' information.

CASL unanimously supports moving forward with removing the ability of all @wpi.edu users to see most if not all information available in WPI's Azure Active Directory. Prof. Coburn will consult with CITP.

Adjournment: 3:12PM