

Educational Technology Highlights: November 2015

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Center for Teaching (CFT):

- **BOLD Fellows:** In the [Blended and Online Learning Design \(BOLD\) Fellows](#) program, faculty-graduate student teams design, implement, and assess online learning modules for use in Vanderbilt courses. The two BOLD Fellow cohorts continued to meet in November.

In addition, BOLD Fellow **Faizan Zubair**, a doctoral student in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, presented [his BOLD project](#) at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers annual conference in Salt Lake City, UT on November 11. The project, titled “Use of interactive videos to enhance student understanding of thermodynamic efficiency,” was a collaboration with Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering professor **Paul Laibinis**.



- **THATCamp:** The fourth annual [Vanderbilt THATCamp](#) was held November 6-7 at the Vanderbilt Curb Center for Enterprise and Public Policy, with 44 faculty, staff, and student participants. THATCamp, which stands for “The Humanities and Technology Camp,” is an unconference where humanists and technologists of all skill levels learn and build together. This year’s event featured a keynote by game designer, Wikipedian, and cryptographer **Elonka Dunin**, as well as multiple sessions on teaching and technology. THATCamp was co-sponsored by the Center for Second Language Studies, the Center for Teaching, the Curb Center, the Jean and Alexander Heard Libraries, the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, and the Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning.
- **Blackboard Support:** The CFT Blackboard team continues responding to Blackboard support requests, both technical and pedagogical, around campus. Between August 21

and October 16 (prior to the November reporting period), **the CFT Blackboard team responded to 462 support requests** through the Blackboard inbox (the primary Blackboard support mechanism). These included 280 requests from faculty, 31 from staff and administrators, and 87 from students. See the appendix below for a breakdown of requests by school and rank.

- **EdTech Workshops:** CFT staff led one edtech workshop and several Blackboard drop-in hours during this time frame. The CFT also hosted **Claire Knowles** from the University of Memphis on November 12th for a **workshop on instructional design and accessibility**. Several members of the CFT staff participated, as well as others involved in Blackboard and/or instructional design at Vanderbilt. This group is preparing a guide for Vanderbilt faculty, students, and staff on designing accessible learning spaces within Blackboard. Total participation: 14 faculty, 15 staff, 1 graduate student.
 - Instructional Design with Blackboard – 15 participants
 - The Flipped Classroom @ Nursing – 10 participants
 - Blackboard Drop-Ins @ CFT – 5 participants total
- **Lab Pedagogies Faculty Learning Community:** Under the guidance of the CFT's Stacey Johnson and Rebecca Panter, the Lab Pedagogy Faculty Learning Community investigated ways to use rubrics and inline grading on Blackboard to improve feedback to students in lab courses.
- **EdTech Consultations:** Of the 86 faculty, staff, and graduate student consultations held between October 24 and November 20 at the CFT, 10 dealt explicitly with educational technology. Consultation topics included Blackboard pedagogy, timeline tools (e.g. Tiki-Toki), and classroom response systems ("clickers").
- **EdTech Roadshow:** In collaboration with the Library and the Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning, the CFT shared information about its various educational technology resources at the November meeting of the Vanderbilt Student Government.

Appendix: Blackboard Support Requests via Email, August 21 to October 16

	Admin	Prof	Assoc Prof	Asst Prof	Grad Student	Instructor	Sr. Lecturer	Lecturer	Other	Staff	Student	(blank)	Grand Total
Arts & Sciences	6	20	21	29	6		27	8	19	6	8	1	151
Blair		1	3				3		1	1			9
Divinity		1	2								4		7
Engineering	1	14	29	8					1		1		54
Law				2					2				4
Medicine	3	7	6	4			2		4	2	2	1	31
Nursing		4		1							1		6
Owen	3	10	2	9					1	3			28
Peabody		8	4	30		1	10	13	3	2	8	2	81
Other	2			1					8	2	57	21	91
Grand Total	15	65	67	84	6	1	42	21	39	16	81	25	462

Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning (VIDL):

- **Android App Development Specialization on Coursera:**
 - SOE's Doug Schmidt and team's specialization on Android App Development, a basic level four course sequence and a final capstone project, will launch February 2016. Course preparation underway.

- **Self-Serve Studio:**
 - Planning and preparation almost complete; filming video tutorials in December.
 - Launch date: January 2016

- **Ed-Tech Roadshow:**
 - Presented at Vanderbilt Student Government

- **VIDL Advisory Board:**
 - Inaugural meeting of the new board: presentation on history, mission, activities, and tour of the self-serve studio

- **Project Based Learning - Proposal to Coursera:**
 - Submitted by Dave Owens (pre-proposal was selected for further development)

- **Coursera MOOCs:**
 - **Music Business upcoming Coursera MOOC:**
 - Recorded interview with Alison Smith at BMI
 - Recorded interview with John McBride at Blackbird Studio
 - Recorded interview with Dean Doug Howard at Belmont
 - Recorded interview with Nashville Musician's Association/Union President Dave Pommeroy
 - Reviewing, editing videos, and building course on platform ongoing
 - **Personalized Medicine upcoming Coursera MOOC:**
 - All images sourced or replaced
 - Requesting permissions is nearing completion (less than 25 images to purchase)
 - Rough edits of all videos done - final edits after review by the team
 - **Programming with MATLAB:**
 - MATLAB - third offering is ongoing
 - **CIRTL-STEM-teaching MOOC 1 and upcoming Coursera MOOC 2:**
 - Part 1 - second offering is ongoing
 - Part 2 - ongoing edits, and building other parts of the course
 - **Android Specialization sequence:**
 - Last sequence: Capstone course is complete
 - Next sequence is ongoing (first course POSAConcurrency is complete; next course is starting Nov. 30)

- **Other video projects:**
 - Filmed 7 “Beyond the Lab” interviews with Kate Stuart in the BRET Office (Jeff)
 - The video with Ace Thompson played at the Plant Ops Town Hall meeting week of Nov. 16th, 2015.

- **Digital Resources on campus:**
 - VIDL Graduate Fellows have compiled a list of resources on digital learning available on VU campus.

- **Meetings with VU faculty:**
 - Ongoing discussions with faculty on possible projects:
 - Ifeoma Nwankwo, Cliff Anderson, Doug Fisher etc. on the Wisdom Working Group TIPS proposal
 - Mona Frederick and Tracy Tripp, on the Warren Center project
 - Samira Sheikh (Immersion Vanderbilt)
 - Divinity School Dean Emilie Townes and Chair of the Academic Programs Committee Dale Andrews
 - Divinity School - finalizing MOOC proposal

- **Research with MOOC data:**
 - Ongoing work examining forums and natural language processing
 - NSF proposal on formal and informal learning (with Doug Fisher and the MOOC research working group)
 - TIPS proposal on e-learning (with Amanda Goodwin et.al)

- **Other work:**
 - Meeting with Roman Holowinsky (OSU - The STEAM Factory: collaborative faculty working space)
 - THATCamp 2015
 - NSF proposal for exploring Virtual Reality technology (PI: Bobby Bodenheimer)

The Curb Center:

- **THAT (The Humanities And Technology) Camp with Elonka Dunin:**
 - An “un-conference” that revolves around digital humanities and technology and schedule is determined by its participants.
 - 34 people registered, but many more showed up for the event.
 - Link: <http://vanderbiltuniversity2015.thatcamp.org/>
- **Visit from Roman Holowinsky, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Founder and Director of The STEAM Factory at The Ohio State University:**
 - Roman discussed the work The STEAM Factory is doing at Ohio State University and in Columbus, and shared information and ideas about how Vanderbilt could collaborate to integrate interdisciplinary and trans-institutional projects into our scholarship, teaching, and community engagement.
 - The STEAM Factory is a “diverse and inclusive grass-roots network in the Ohio State community that facilitates creative and interdisciplinary collaboration, innovation, and dissemination” (<https://steamfactory.osu.edu/>).
 - In addition to generating interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation across Ohio State, the STEAM Factory is a hub for interactions among scholars, artists, artisans, and entrepreneurs integrating the scholarly mission of the University into the life of the Columbus community.
- **Wednesday night meetings of the Gaming Club:**
 - Vanderbilt’s video game club that meets regularly
- **Curb Creative Practice FIRST Mini Boot Camp Session: *Beyond the Selfie*:**
 - "The best camera is the one that's with you."
 - This quote, by photographer Chase Jarvis, encapsulates the reason why many photographers are ditching their fancy gear for their mobile phone cameras or pocket-sized digitals.
 - He teaches that you don't need an expensive digital camera to take great photographs, just better techniques for the camera you have.
 - In this workshop, participants will learn techniques to elevate their digital snaps into photos they can be proud of.
 - Session will discuss the visual elements of photography including composition, framing, and point of view, then use hands-on practice to cover tips for getting a subject in sharper focus and adjusting exposure in camera.
 - Session will also cover apps one can use to improve photos after-the-fact and tips for creating images that are holiday card worthy.
 - Session encourages participants to bring their mobile phone or digital cameras
 - Erin Kice is a photographer and creative consultant in Nashville. She is a founding board member of Nashville Community Darkroom in East Nashville, a photography gallery and workspace offering photography workshops and classes.

The Library:

Campus Events

- GIS Day (<http://newsonline.library.vanderbilt.edu/2015/11/gis-day-november-18th/>)
 - Steve Wernke, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Director, Spatial Analysis Research Lab, gave a talk titled "Drones! Drones! Drones!" on the use of drones and other GIS technologies in his research in Peru.
 - Stephany Duda, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Informatics, and Clifford Anderson, Director for Scholarly Communications in the Vanderbilt University Library, presented a workshop on visualizing geospatial information with REDCap and RShiny.
 - In total, 66 people participated in these events either by attending in person or via the Periscope app.

Working Groups

- The library held working group meetings on the SPARQL query language on Monday, November 2; Monday, November 9; Monday, November 16, Monday, November 23 and Monday, November 30.
- The library held working group meetings on XQuery on Friday, November 6; Friday, November 13; and Friday, November 20.
- Carla Beals assisted with coordinating and facilitating the Instructional Design Work Group co-sponsored by VIDL; Ed Warga presented a talk to this group on November 18 about using DiscoverArchive as a repository for student works (7 attendees).

Workshops

- The library held three digital scholarship workshops during November:
 - *Extracting Data* led by Morgan Daniels on November 6 (12 attendees)
 - *Internet of Things* led by Ed Warga on November 13 (17 attendees)
 - *Data Visualization* led by Morgan Daniels on November 20 (17 attendees)
- Chris Benda gave two *Introduction to EndNote* sessions on November 12 (4 students) and November 15 (2 students).
- Morgan Daniels and Ed Warga held a workshop titled *Managing Your Online Scholarly Presence* for a group of postdocs and faculty at the Translational Bridge Seminar Series at the Medical School on November 12 (39 participants).
- Lindsey Fox presented on GIS to the SLAM (Spatial Learning and Mobility) working group led by Rogers Hall, Professor and Chair, Department of Teaching & Learning, Peabody School on November 3 (5 participants).

Consultations

- Carla Beals held an individual consultation on using Omeka for digital exhibits.
- Lindsey Fox held thirteen individual consultations on GIS-related projects.
- Clifford Anderson, Morgan Daniels, and Ed Warga consulted on using Omeka for a graduate student's digital project.
- Clifford Anderson held two additional consultations with graduate students related to digital scholarship.

Related Talks

- Suellen Stringer-Hye presented a lightening talk titled "The Power of Tiny Data: Using Neo4j in the Digital Humanities" at the GraphConnect conference in San Francisco on October 21.
- Morgan Daniels delivered a talk titled "Training Up and Reaching Out: Library Strategies to Coordinate Research Data Management on Campus" at the Digital Library Federation conference on October 27.
- Suellen Stringer-Hye spoke about the use of Neo4j to visualize correspondence networks titled "The Epistolary Correspondence of Flannery O'Connor" at the Flannery O'Connor Society meeting during the South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA) 2015 conference on November 1.
- Clifford Anderson and Hilary Craiglow, Director of the Walker Management Library, delivered a ASIS&T webinar titled "Text Mining in Libraries: How Librarians Develop Skills Required to Support This Evolving Form of Research" on November 2 (<https://www.asist.org/events/webinars/text-mining-in-libraries/>).
- Clifford Anderson and Suellen Stringer-Hye both led sessions during the Vanderbilt THATCamp on November 7 (<http://vanderbiltuniversity2015.thatcamp.org/>)

Vanderbilt University Information Technology (VUIT):

- **High Definition Lecture Capture at School of Nursing**
 - In collaboration with SoN, VUIT provisioned the storage and servers necessary to support SoN migration to SonicFoundry's Mediasite product, which replaced their legacy lecture-capture functionality.

- **Student Survey**
 - The first VUIT student survey closed with 1,872 student responses. Analysis of results is underway and will be shared once complete.

- **Managed Desktop Support Collaboration**
 - Academic Affairs Business Officers and VUIT DTS School Leaders met to discuss the newly-managed desktop program and how the groups can collaborate. These discussions helped clarify the processes to enable better coordination of procurement and deployment of systems to faculty and staff.

- **Student Technology Events**
 - VUIT network team built out temporary additional wireless coverage for the Oct 2-3 VandyHacks event.
 - *The student group VandyHacks hosted a three-day event in Sarratt Student Center which attracted 250 participants from Vanderbilt, Purdue University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, and a number of other mostly southeastern schools. Not to be confused with illegal entry into companies' information networks, this hacking event is an invention marathon, where teams win prizes for coming up with the coolest mobile apps, hardware devices, virtual reality games, and more.*
 - VUIT provided sponsorship for the Nov 13th VandyLAN event.
 - *VandyLAN is a student organization dedicated to hosting gaming events and tournaments for members of the Vanderbilt community while generating a positive impact on the Greater Nashville community.*

- **Classroom Technology**
 - In partnership with the Provost's office, VUIT worked with the Registrar's office to identify all teaching faculty from the past 3 semesters, excluding SoM and SoN. The VUIT team then reached out to the faculty to ask for feedback on classroom technology. Over 70 individual responses provided information that will be reviewed and used by Academic Affairs to select the classrooms for Summer 2016 technology upgrades.

- **Support Requests**
 - During the period of 10/23/2015-11/20/2015, VUIT received 1,689 individual support requests from faculty, staff, and professional students in the schools.

- **Wireless Redesign**

- Following the successful redesign of the network in Featheringill Hall, VUIT Network Services will be redesigning the wireless network for several academic buildings and residence halls in the coming year (schedule TBD). The buildings in scope for this project are:

- Calhoun
- Furman
- Law
- Owen
- Rand/Sarratt
- Benson
- Garland
- MRB3
- Gillette
- Lupton
- Scales
- Stapleton
- Vaughn
- Hank Ingram
- Murray