Educational Technology Highlights: September 2015

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Center for Teaching (CFT):

- **Blackboard Support:** On August 16th, the CFT began providing <u>centralized Blackboard support</u> for the campus. Instructors can now obtain both technical and pedagogical assistance with Blackboard at the CFT through a variety of mechanisms. The CFT added three new staff members this summer as part of this new effort:
    o   Stacey Johnson, Assistant Director for Educational Technology
    o   Lee Scarborough, Instructional Technologist
    o   Rebecca Panter, Instructional Technologist

- **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 four school or college faculty meetings: Divinity, Nursing, Owen, and Peabody.

- **Timelines Working Group:** The CFT launched a new educational technology working group focusing on the use of online, collaborative, multimedia timelines in teaching. The launch meeting brought together 7 faculty, 2 librarians, and 1 graduate student.

- **BOLD Fellows:** The <u>Blended and Online Learning Design (BOLD) Fellows</u> program began its third year. In this program, faculty-graduate student teams design, implement, and assess online learning modules for use in Vanderbilt courses. Participants include 11 faculty and 11 graduate students from A&S, Engineering, and Medicine.
    o   2014-15 BOLD Fellow Mary Keithly, a doctoral student in chemistry, presented <u>her BOLD project</u> at the American Chemical Society national meeting in August. The project, titled "Blending it up: Active learning in a STEM classroom through the use of online materials," was a collaboration with Biological Sciences faculty Kathy Friedman and Mark Woelfle.

- **EdTech Workshops:** The CFT hosted several edtech workshops during this time frame. Total participation: 45 faculty, 5 staff, 10 graduate students.
    o   PowerPoint Clinic – 6 participants
    o   Intro to Blackboard – 17 participants

- o Four Blackboard workshops at CSLS – 7 participants total
- o Several drop-in Blackboard support hours – 30 participants total

- **EdTech Consultations:** Consultation topics included course blogs, digital storytelling, classroom response systems, the creation of instructional videos, and a variety of Blackboard tools and features.
  - o The CFT is still setting up mechanisms to track all EdTech consults, including Blackboard support consults.

- **Online Materials:** "[Effective Educational Videos](#)," a teaching guide authored by CFT Assistant Director Cynthia Brame, was published on the CFT website. Additionally, 13 Blackboard walk-throughs (7 video, 6 PDF) were created and posted by the Blackboard support team.

Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning (VIDL):

- **Self-serve studio:**
  - o Planning and preparation ongoing
  - o Planned launch date: October

- **Ed-Tech Roadshow:** Presented at Peabody, Owen, Nursing, Divinity, & Blair; upcoming presentations at Arts & Sciences, Law School, & Engineering

- **Coursera MOOCS:**
  - o **Music Business (upcoming):**
    - Recorded interview with David Macias of Thirty Tigers for MusicBiz course
    - Recorded interview with Todd Ohlhauser of Mercy Lounge, and Anthony Aquilato, sound engineer/stage manager
    - Course preparation ongoing
  - o **Personalized Medicine (upcoming):**
    - All videos for Module 1 uploaded on Coursera platform for final review; assessments and resources pages for this module have also been built
    - Requesting permissions is ongoing with Library's help
  - o **Programming with MATLAB:**
    - MATLAB - second offering completed, third will be starting October 5th.
  - o **CIRTL-STEM:**
    - Part 1, second offering:
      - Ready to go live September 28
    - Part 2:
      - Upcoming
  - o **Android Specialization sequence:**
    - Last sequence of courses nearing completion: Capstone course is ongoing
    - Next sequence starting October 5
  - o **Other MOOCs news:**

- Considering proposals for a Law School MOOC

- **Digital resources on campus:**
    - VIDL Graduate Fellows are building a list of resources on digital learning available at VU. This will reside on the Educational Technologies website.

- **Meetings with VU faculty:** Ongoing discussions with faculty on possible projects

- **Research with MOOC data:** Ongoing work examining forums and natural language processing; ongoing NSF grant proposal exploration

The Curb Center:

- **VandyApps:** 90+ students met in the Curb Workshop and Yamada room for overflow for VandyApps Boot Camp sessions on Android and iOS apps, and on arts and coding.

- **Vanderbilt Portal:** Opening debut. Immersive audio and video technology that illustrates how new technologies are fostering innovation in learning, teaching, and discovery.