

MEMORANDUM

TO: Erika Mann, Chair  
Academic Computing and Information Technology Advisory Subcommittee

CC: Steven Hanke, Chair  
Educational Policy Committee

CC: Mark Jordan, Chair  
University Resources Policy Committee

FROM: Ann Marshall, Chair  
Executive Committee

DATE: October 22, 2021

SUBJ: Charge to Investigate and Recommend Policies for the Use of Brightspace Learning Management System (LMS) Data

WHEREAS, Purdue Fort Wayne faculty implemented Brightspace as its Learning Management System for the fall 2020 semester; and

WHEREAS, while Brightspace generates a variety of data regarding faculty and student use of the software, the feature making this data accessible has not yet been fully activated within Brightspace; and

WHEREAS, it has been proposed that the Brightspace data feature be activated; and

WHEREAS, Vice Chancellor Carl Drummond recently met with Educational Policy Committee (EPC) members seeking faculty input on creating policies about the appropriate use of Brightspace data; and

WHEREAS, EPC members recommended that the Academic Computing and Information Technology Advisory Subcommittee (ACITAS) be charged with this investigation because of the technical knowledge required; and

WHEREAS, Brightspace data has both: 1) potential pedagogical value in helping faculty enhance their teaching, and 2) has the potential to make public otherwise private data about faculty use of Brightspace that could be used counter to faculty interests regarding classroom teaching; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that ACITAS be charged to investigate and recommend policies and/or procedures for use of Brightspace Learning Management System (LMS) data, including to:

1. Review the data collection and data sharing options within Brightspace.
2. Investigate best practices for making Brightspace data available. This may involve seeking faculty input and/or contacting faculty experts at Purdue Fort Wayne and/or more broadly.
3. Based upon the principles of faculty governance (SD 16-26), recommend a series of practices, policies and/or procedures in the form of either a report and/or Senate resolution that considers both the potential benefits of the data and the potential for the data to be used counter to faculty interests.
4. Consider policies that may (or may not) include, but are also not limited to: a) anonymizing data, b) making certain categories of data either available or not available to particular users or audiences, and c) possible faculty opt-in or opt-out procedures for data sharing.
5. Submit the ACITAS report and/or resolution, including the approval of URPC and the inclusion of any URPC adjustments, to EPC by March 1, 2022; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that EPC review this report and/or resolution, making any revisions and/or additional recommendations, with a target date to submit this report and/or resolution to the full Senate by the Senate document deadline of March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022.