



Biology Best Practices Sharing Session

April 14, 2020

Attendees:

1. Michael Applegate, Wiregrass
2. Erin Bell OFTC
3. Susan McBell OFTC
4. Brandon Robinson Savannah Technical College
5. Rebecca Ward Ogeechee Technical College
6. Maloof - Southern Crescent Technical College
7. Donna Andrews, Georgia Northwestern GNTEC
8. Brittany Cochran, Georgia Northwestern (GNTEC)
9. Anabelle Tedder West Georgia Technical College
10. Cheryl West - Southeastern Tech
11. Carol Duke, Columbus Technical College
12. Cynthia David - Augusta Tech
13. Ebenezar Achionye- Georgia Piedmont tech
14. Caycee Creamer - West Georgia tech
15. Michelle Likins - North Georgia Technical College
16. Jan Thompson, North GA
17. Brandon Robinson, Savannah Tech
18. Tammie Henderson Central Ga Tech College
19. Maria Rivas WGTC
20. Amanda Crider, Savannah Tech
21. Kelly Rhoades, NGTC
22. Charles Shelton Wiregrass
23. Akeia McCollum- Atlanta Technical College
24. George Todd - Coastal Pines Technical College
25. David Wortham - West Georgia Tech
26. Erica Harrison - Southeastern Technical College
27. Michelle Smith Columbus Technical College
28. Karen Burke Southern Crescent Technical College
29. Sadia Ajohda - Southeastern Technical College
30. Crystal Ivey Ogeechee Technical College
31. Amy Giesecke Chattahoochee Technical College
32. Alicia Anderson Columbus Technical College
33. Michael Applegate, Wiregrass
34. Sravanti Kantheti-Lanier Technical College
35. Nikki Stubbs, TCSG
36. Nathalie Dames TCSG

Points of Discussion:

The purpose of this meeting was to address the needs of general education faculty in light of the recent quick transition to virtual learning for all course. The following questions were presented during the meeting:

- GVTC Resources: <https://gvtc.tcsg.edu/deac>
- What have you had to change to accommodate online instruction?
- What suggestions do you have for your peers?
- Where do you need assistance?

Discussion Notes:

- The GVTC Resources: <https://gvtc.tcsg.edu/deac> website was shared.
 - Online lab resources are there for you as well.
- Microbiology Labs
 - This is the link to the GVTC Resources, which includes OER and Shared TCSG Courses <https://gvtc.tcsg.edu/deac>
 - Virtual microbiology classroom <https://www.scienceprofonline.org/virtual-micro-main-2.html> has cell biology, microbiology, anatomy and other resources as well.
- Labs in General



- McGraw-Hill “Connect” is a great resource as well as “Learn Smart” Labs for Bio I and Microbiology. Free for a limited amount of time. Several Textbooks available that may fit your needs.
- Khan Academy is another resource for Biology I students.
- Savannah Tech recommends: <https://www.biodigital.com/> a free website. Was used for creating models. You can use the material already there or create your own. It doesn't have everything and it takes some time to download but a good resource.
- Visible Body Courseware is free until June 30, email this lady and she will give you access, they have lots of textbook options. Anatomical models, 3D, little quizzes and disease application things. her email is deb.varnado@visiblebody.com
- Has anyone had any students confirm they are attempting to do their coursework via mobile devices only? IE smart phones, or tablets only?
 - Yes
 - WGTC are strongly encouraging our students to use real computers.
 - All of mine use computers or tablets but their assignments, through Wiley PLUS (which I love), are mobile compatible. It's not always the most convenient but they can make it work especially if they are at work and have downtime. Testing is not possible on phones though. Wiley PLUS uses Respondus with Monitor - after the summer they will have ProctorU built in
- Issues downloading Respondus to a MAC: Solution from Nikki Stubbs
 - Respondus is a windows only program
 - Respondus Lock Down Browser is available via mac, but the Respondus program to push your tests into Blackboard is Windows specific so I have installed a Windows partition on my mac (I am mac exclusive) so that I can use the program.
- TopHat <https://tophat.com/pricing/>
 - Lanier Tech is using it
 - Very similar to Respondus Lockdown Browsers
 - Tophat very similar to Pearson's Mastering A&P
 - It will be separate than Blackboard but not associated with a certain publisher
 - It is free for now but may have a price associated with it
 - Used with OER resources as well
- Issues:
 - Online teaching is more demanding then teaching face to face
 - ADA compliance with images
 - Use image descriptions
 - Most of my students are kinesthetic learners. This is very hard for them to wrap themselves around the material without a lot of guide from the instructor
 - Several of my students have told me they do not like it and that is why they do not normally take online classes
 - Microsoft Teams has been very helpful for me with communicating with my students as well



- How can you meet with multiple groups/ class sections at one time?
 - Yes. Setup a Blackboard Collaborate session in any course. Use the guest link to share it with any of your other classes.
 - Setting up the meeting up in a Sandbox allows for easy access to recordings.
 - <https://gvtc.tcsg.edu/deac> has resources for Collaborate training as well.
- Dual enrollment
 - Some colleges have been able to negotiate with publishers for free access for codes to for dual enrollment students.
- Tips on creating online tests
 - Something to consider: the answers to the Pearson's testgen questions are available online. This may also be the case for any other publishers test bank as well. One way to avoid this is creating your own questions and change around answer choices and question wording.
 - Strict time limits: one minute per question for the exam questions. I have to sort the questions, so I do not include multiple cases. All questions are multiple choice or True/False.
 - 40 questions (multiple choice, matching, T/F etc.) and 2 essay questions for a 75 minute exam.
 - Pull in probably about 70 questions and "randomize"
 - Randomized question
 - Use Lockdown Browser.
 - 50 questions (multiple choice or T/F) and gave 60 mins.
 - Tips on using TestGen will be sent out via the listserve.