NLCVA (Networked Learning Collaborative of Virginia)
Summary of 9.10.26 Membership Meeting

Attendance

10 representatives from 6 institutions participated in the meeting: Leslie A (Longwood), Sam B (Radford), Sarah C (JMU), Ginny C (VT), Larry C (VT), Kayla M (VT), Susan P (NVCC), Diana T (W&M), Pablo Y (W&M), Henry Y (JMU). Tim Hurley from Richard Bland College joined us for a few minutes.

The Agenda (click on underlined text to jump to section)

- Review proposed changes in the NLCVA Bylaws
- Round-robin for everyone to share news from their institutions, and
- Generate ideas for presentation and discussion topics for future meetings.

Proposed Revisions to NLCVA Bylaws

The NLCVA Bylaws require that "Any proposed changes [to the bylaws] will be introduced at least one meeting prior to the meeting at which a decision is made and communicated electronically to the membership." Accordingly, the current proposed revisions were shared (substantial only -- we did not review minor edits for clarity, etc.). All proposed changes can be viewed in the redline version with proposed changes.

The proposed changes shared at the meeting include:

Article IV
Changing "chairperson elect" to "vice-chair"; regular elected position vs. continuing after chairperson role

Article V & Article VI
Updates to registered agent; removing list of officers from bylaws

Article IX
Removal of Sponsorship Committee, Standing Committees; the only standing committee will be the Nomination Committee (all others ad hoc)

Article X
Broadened language related to funds NLCVA can hold to reflect current fee structure but allow for future flexibility

Sarah (communications officer) will distribute the link to a ballot for representatives to vote for or against each change. The results will be shared at the October meeting and a final decision will be announced.

Round-Robin

Representatives shared news of their respective institutions' accomplishments, challenges, initiatives and events. Notable topics and discussion:

- Technology Tools:
    - Schools piloting new tools: AI applications (e.g., Copilot, Boodlebox) the Hypothesis social media annotation tool (with mixed results), and Respondus Lockdown Browser (LDB).
    - New features of Respondus Monitor (e.g., allowing/requiring a second camera) and the "ban" policy have raised more concerns around equity and privacy. Also creates confusion for students and faculty. The ban security policy has been "such a headache."
    - Lockdown Browser creates issues, e.g., when assessments require the student to refer to websites outside of the test site. Clarification that LDB was designed for in-class proctored test environment, not remote testing.
    - Radford looking at new LMS systems.
- Digital Accessibility:
    - JMU has a digital accessibility ambassador program – instructional designers assigned to colleges to learn about and help with their accessibility needs.
    - Some schools starting to use Ally, enabling faculty to check their own course materials for digital accessibility issues. Overall, positive reactions to tool. However, faculty cannot fix issues in PDF files if they do not have access to Acrobat Pro. Videos embedded in PPT slides also creates issues.
    - Example of embedded accessibility advocacy: Kayla shared VT article that highlights Excellence in Access and Inclusion awardees in 2024. Kayla was member of the Universal Design for Learning Fellows, a 12-member group of faculty who received an award: https://news.vt.edu/articles/2024/12/sa-ssd-excellence-access-inclusion-awards.html. According to the nomination, the faculty "intentionally structure their courses to ensure that disabled students have choices to maximize their learning and engagement with course content, serving as peer mentors to teaching faculty members."
- Other
    - Adam Barger left W&M to take new position at Radford: Assistant Vice President for Radford Online.
    - Growing concern around AI and integrity within online courses and AI built into applications such as Excel. No clear solutions at this time. And for on-campus courses, the "return to analog" solution creates accessibility issues.

Future Meeting Topics

- Ideas for this year's meeting topics bubbled up during discussion
    - Peer-to-Peer teaching/training models, Communities of Practice
    - Online learning integrity issues in general and specific tools, e.g., closer look at Respondus Monitor use strategies
    - Digital accessibility strategies (e.g., ambassadors, embedded advocacy), and issues as a result of analog-only shift
    - Digital Badge initiatives
    - New AI tools, e.g., Noodle AI for Quality Matters course reviews