

5.2 Motion on Learning Management Systems

Passed by the University of Canberra Senior Secondary College Lake Ginninderra sub-branch, for consideration of Branch Council.

In the past year ACT ETD has decided to provide broader choices for school to consider when implementing a Learning Management System (LMS). Previously, ETD successively corporately licenced and centrally funded myClasses, cLc and LIFE as a system-wide LMS. ETD also centrally funded administrator, and some expert user, training to assist schools to implement such capabilities. It is now apparent that ETD does not wish to standardise on an LMS and has provided two centrally licenced capabilities, in Google Apps for Education (GAPE) and Microsoft 365 (MS365), for each school to consider for implementation at their institution. Indications were provided by ETD Central office staff in 2014, that centrally funded formal information sessions or workshops would be provided to schools to assist their implementation of either of these applications. In 2015 there has been no centrally funded professional development in either of these LMS capabilities and recently ETD staff have encouraged individuals to attend a Google Summit, in their own time and at their own expense.

The removal of centralised funding for capability development within schools for either GAPE or MS365 should be condemned as sneaky cost-shifting. ETD needs to account for why funding for such core capability development in each school has been removed and whether they envisage on an ongoing basis, individual teachers having to personally fund capability development of what is a corporate expectation in delivering ICT-based capabilities to students. AEU members should be actively discouraged from personally funding and attending any such professional learning. In the absence of any centrally provisioned training for GAPE or MS365 by ETD, at a minimum, ETD should fund the attendance of two staff at the Google Apps for Education Summit March 28-29 (or equivalent professional learning), from each ETD school that is currently implementing GAPE, and that similar funding provision be made for schools implementing MS365.

Accordingly, AEU Branch Council:

- a. Condemns the cost-shifting of corporate capability development from ETD to individuals, including the apparent expectation that such corporate capability be developed in the personal time of individuals and/or at personal expense;*
- b. Asks Senior Officers to represent to ETD that it has an obligation to fund acquisition of core knowledge and skills in key staff at each school when implementing a new corporate Learning Management System, consistent with the requirements of clause Q.3.4 of the current Enterprise Agreement and that any such professional development take place in core working hours. This centralised funding commitment should be for two lead facilitators at each school that plans to implement a Learning Management System;*
- c. Recommends that no AEU member attend the Google Apps for Education Summit March 28-29, or any such similar training in the future, until such time that the minimum funding commitment sought by the AEU is agreed to by ETD and that any such professional learning is agreed to be conducted in core working hours; and*
- d. Recommends no expanded capability of GAPE or MS365 be supported by AEU members in any school until at least two lead facilitators are funded by ETD to develop the necessary training and skills to support the implementation of either of these LMS applications at a school.*

Moved By: Stephen Hood

Seconded By: Gustavo River