Senate Information Systems and Technology Committee
October 18, 2001
718 General Classroom

Present: Faye Borthick, Murray Brown, Laura Burtle, Missy Cody, Bill Evans, Shif Gurmu, Steve Harmon, James Jones, Valerie Miler, Joe Rau, and Cherian Thachenkary

Absent: Reid Christenberry, Samuel Cox, Kelly Davis, Dabney Dixon, Bill Fritz, Joan Gabel, Ralph Gilbert, Charles Gilbreath, Marty Grace, Steve Kaminshine, Scott Owen, Don Reitzes

Also Present: Mary Jane Casto and Carolyn Gard

Minutes: Minutes were approved as distributed. New member, Joe Rau, College of Health & Human Sciences (CHHS), was welcomed to the Senate Committee. Bill Evans reported Randy De Kler (CHHS) had resigned from the Senate Committee and he expressed appreciation to Randy for his work on the committee and subcommittee.

Reports:
Teaching and Learning with Technology Subcommittee:
Missy Cody reported on the September 21 meeting. In discussing the four technology-equipped classrooms in Sparks Hall, she encouraged the committee members to visit the rooms and to let faculty and others know about the availability of these rooms.

TLTS discussed the self-paced, interactive, tech fee-funded, eTraining now available for students, staff and faculty.

Missy called on Faye to report on WebISPT. Faye reiterated the “Provost has given the Web Instructional Support Planning Team (WebISPT) the charge to make recommendations to him on the characterization of the kinds of support essential for development, delivery, and assessment of technology-enabled learning experiences; distribution of central and local support functions; service measures or indicators for the effectiveness and efficiency of support services and technology use; and ways to leverage University resources to maximize the effectiveness of technology-enabled instruction and associated learning.” Faye asked the members to view the materials located at http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwltc/pro/WebISPT/charge.htm and send comments. Once the WebISPT’s site is open, the logon is tlte and the password is Mg7845.

TLTS presented the following motion:

Students will logon in the University Educational Technology Services (UETS) managed classrooms with their personal Student Email and Network (Novell) Account, effective Spring Semester 2002. The rationale was that it would be a convenience to students as they would be able to store class materials directly to their accounts; and currently, students in classrooms have unauthenticated access to the Internet. Using personal logons will reduce this liability to the university. Carolyn Gard led the discussion. In answer to a concern raised about students knowing they have an email account, she explained her group is working with Incept and Admissions and is providing other communication across campus to inform every student that they have accounts on the Student Email and Web system. Discussion was brought to a close, and motion passed.

Information Technology Support Subcommittee
James Jones reported this committee had two truncated meetings; September 19 and October 16. In
discussion of student tech fee funds, he mentioned this group plans to work together to share ideas regarding proposals to enhance the process and identify proposals that may be candidates for university-wide implementations. James discussed some concerns they are having with Banner. There are some people that need access to those databases but are unable to get IDs, passwords, or structural data about these databases because, currently, there is no process a department can follow to obtain access for specific rights and information to begin working with those Oracle data resources. Mary Jane recommended they reference the current Data Stewardship and Access Policy. At Carolyn’s suggestion to look into Crystal Report, he responded that it might be a workaround but wouldn’t address the real issue. This subcommittee is also discussing chair nominees for ITSS, and this will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Information Technology Security Subcommittee
Bill Evans the report on the October 10 meeting. He reported that Randy Jones was appointed Chair of this subcommittee. The subcommittee is developing a policy template for university information security issues, working with Legal Affairs to consolidate current policies related to security issues into one policy. The subcommittee is also drafting a proposal for a university Computer Emergency Response team to assist with security incident response and investigation.

Discussion:
Proposal to revise Faculty Handbook to accommodate e-learning
Bill reported two members of the ISAT Committee worked with other faculty and staff to revise the sections of the Faculty Handbook that would relate to new technologies. The motion read:

That the GSU Faculty Handbook be changed as indicated below to:

a. Recognize the growing importance of new technologies in teaching and learning and
b. Focus on the attainment of learning outcomes independent of instructional delivery approaches.

The sections the committee worked with and provided revisions for were 401.01; 401.03, Student Attendance; 401.04, Veteran Attendance; 401.06, Textbooks and other Course Materials; 401.08, Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes (new); 402.01, Final Examinations; and 408.01, Assignment of Instruction Facility. The draft motion on Approval of New Instructional Methods was rejected by the Joint Ad & St, APACE, IS&T, Faculty Affairs Subcommittee. The section that brought the most discussion was the new section on Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes. The motion was called and passed. The suggested changes can be obtained from Dolores Waters (1-3470) or Dolores@gsu.edu.

Review of FY2002 IS&T Action Plan
These plans will be updated bimonthly. A column will be added to include estimated dates of completion for the items. Bill encouraged the members to review these frequently to keep updated on IS&T’s plans. He also said that questions could be referred to Mary Jane at MJCasto@gsu.edu.

E-Mail Migration
The question of the length of time Panther will be available was raised. This was followed with a suggestion that as staff and faculty increase working from home that the university consider providing internet service to facilitate this. Bill reminded the committee that there are plans to set up a subcommittee to discuss the migration. He will work with Reid to schedule a meeting to discuss this and will bring recommendations of how to involve the rest of the community in the discussion back to the committee.

Future Agenda Discussions
James Jones asked that the subject “responsibility for wireless computing” be discussed. The committee was reminded the tech fee process would begin in the spring.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.
Next meeting is scheduled November 15, in 718 General Classroom.