Present:  Kareem Bishi, Faye Borthick, Laura Burtle, Reid Christenberry, Bill Evans, Steve Harmon, Joe Rau, Stephen Rehberg, Cherian Thachenkary, Neven Valev
Also Present:  Mary Jane Casto and Thomas Hall

Minutes:  The minutes of the January 17 meeting were approved as distributed with the exception of the name of the committee in the header line, which was corrected prior to the meeting but after the minutes were distributed.

Teaching and Learning with Technology Subcommittee (TLTS):  Faye Borthick gave the TLTS report in the absence Missy Cody, chair.  Faye reported on the January 18 and February 15 TLTS meetings.

Teaching and Learning Expo:  Richard Katz, Vice President of EDUCAUSE and author of Dancing with the Devil, will be the keynote speaker at the March 26 Teaching and Learning Expo at Georgia State University.  Faculty and staff at GSU, the Board of Regents, and institutions in the local area are invited.  This event is jointly sponsored by the CTL, TLTC, UETS, DDL, Pullen Library, and the ITC under the guidance of the TLTS, and this is the fourth annual Expo.  Although there is no fee for the Expo, registration online is required.

Teaching and Learning with Technology Center (TLTC):  The web site for TLTC features new pages for faculty and staff on how to thrive in the technology milieu.  The following pages are now available:  Choosing the kind of Web space; Putting stuff on a Web site; Facilitating and assessing chat discourse.  Suggestions for additional pages may be sent to Faye at borthick@gsu.edu.

Institutional posture on HTML editors:  The TLTS recommended that ITSS take on the project of evaluating HTML editors for the purpose of giving guidance on one’s choice of an editor.  Now, Georgia State has a license for FrontPage, but many people choose to use Dreamweaver for which there is no institutional license.  Stephen Rehberg, ITSS chair, agreed to take on the project.

Motion to update Faculty Handbook:  For the second time, the Admissions and Standards Committee deleted the two items on course objectives and assessing them in the 18-month old motion, originating in IS&T TLTS, to update the Faculty Handbook to recognize the growing importance of new technologies in teaching and learning and to focus on the attainment of learning outcomes independent of instructional delivery approaches.  The deleted items are:

Modified Section 401.01.4:  . . .course objectives that specify measurable student learning outcomes.  Measurable learning outcomes state course objectives in language that makes explicit the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that students will have after completing the course.  These objectives may be quantitative or qualitative, as appropriate for the learning outcomes.

The rationale:  Being consistent with educational theory and enabling the best educational practices requires learning objectives whose outcomes are measurable.  Without explicitly stated learning outcomes, assessing the attainment of the outcomes is not possible.

New Section 401.08 Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes:  Assessment should be conducted to determine the extent of student achievement of the stated learning outcomes and to inform the
subsequent improvement of learning experiences.

The rationale: A driving force behind education is the student’s achievement of the stated learning objectives. Because it is difficult to know whether students are achieving the learning objectives without assessing the students’ performance, assessment is required. Assessment may occur as a component of academic program review.

The Admissions and Standards Committee recommended sending the motion (without these two items) to the Senate now and convening a new joint subcommittee from Admissions and Standards, APACE, and Faculty Affairs to consider these two items. IS&T, where the motion originated, was included in the plan for the new joint subcommittee only after Admissions and Standards was prompted to include it. IS&T members authorized Bill Evans to voice IS&T’s 1) disappointment that the two items were omitted and 2) encouragement to convene the new joint subcommittee quickly given the need to align our faculty handbook with good educational practice and accrediting principles concerning learning outcomes and their assessment.

Information Technology Support Subcommittee: Stephen Rehberg reported in answer to a question by the School of Policy Studies that globally WebCT 3.6 has not received many complaints regarding conflicts with Office XP. His group is asking about an update on wireless: where installed and security matters. Bill Paraska will be asked to bring a report on the status of wireless to the ITSS meeting on March 19. Arachnid hardware is being upgraded and is in test mode. Web masters will assist with the testing. CGI execution will be on the old Arachnid while web page displays will be on new hardware and this will minimize impact on users.

Information Technology Security Committee: No report.

Update Regarding FY 2003 Student Technology Fee processes: All proposals are due March 4. Currently four have been submitted. Two meetings are planned: Friday, March 29 in the Sinclair Room of the Student Center and Friday, April 4 in 201 Urban Life. The March 29th meeting will include a one-hour orientation for new members of the Student Tech Fee Subcommittee. Reid has asked Deans about unspent tech fee monies and informed them these will be swept when deadline comes up and given to those that made proposals that didn’t make the first cut.

Briefing regarding uninterrupted power supply and the Georgia State data center: Currently the data center is housed in Library South and has incremental unlimited power supply, is not centrally controlled, and fails erratically. The recommendation has been made not to bring up Banner until a UPS is installed. The Board of Regents kicked in funding for a generator backup and originally the funds for a UPS was in the Banner budget. Bill Evans will put together a working group to study the risks. He will keep the committee members informed.

Discussion of calendar conflict with March meeting: The March 21 meeting will be rescheduled to 2:00 p.m. in room 1103 Commerce Building to accommodate those committee members that want to attend the 3:00 p.m. General/Faculty Community meeting scheduled that same day.

Pilot for Panther Survey: Mary Jane will send the url to this committee and TLTS members to review and provide input to her with a copy to Bill Evans. Data gleaned from the pilot survey will be erased before the actual survey is conducted.

Other Discussion: At the request of Provost Henry, Bill Evans will be serving on a committee studying issues related to the accessibility of Georgia State web sites to persons with disabilities. The goal of this committee is to decide how best to bring these issues into the University Senate, presumably via the IS&T
Reid reported the President’s cabinet is interested in a similar e-mail policy for faculty and staff as we currently have for students’ e-mail—in that all faculty and staff will have an assigned e-mail address and will be expected to receive campus information through that address. As with students, these assigned addresses can be forwarded to a preferred address.

The Digital Aquarium, a collaborative effort of the Student Government, Tech Fees and UETS, had a successful opening on February 19. The Digital Aquarium will observe the same hours the Student Center observes.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 21, 2:00 p.m. in room 1103, Commerce Building.