Senate Information Systems and Technology Committee
April 10, 2003
1:30 P.M.
718 General Classroom

Participants: David Barrett, Laura Burtle, Mary Jane Casto, Marty Fraser, Thomas Netzel, Scott Owen, Susan Walcott

Others Present: Carolyn Gard, Bill Paraska, Larry Pankey

Minutes:
Scott Owen suggested several changes in the minutes. Page 2, line 4, change “decided” to “stated that.” Line 6, delete the sentence: If evaluations are mandatory, . . . Same paragraph, line 16, rewrite the sentence to read: Scott Owen suggested the evaluations be submitted before final exams, (and eliminate the rest of the sentence). Under EDUCAUSE, delete possible in the first sentence. And change the 4th line to read . . . Scott Owen suggested a visionary . . . (instead of Thomas Netzel). With these changes, the minutes were approved.

During the discussion of Student On-Line Course Evaluation Proposal, Thomas Netzel asked that in the next University Senate Committee Meeting, that Marty Fraser ensure the members are aware ISAT Committee recommended amending the proposal to read, “. . . all students’ evaluations are submitted prior to finals.”

Nominations for ADA Compliance Subcommittee:
This was added to the agenda at Marty Fraser’s request. However, after the agenda was sent to ISAT members, he received information that caused him to rethink his request. He explained Caroline Gergely, Disability Services, in conversation with Ron Henry, was asked to get a Georgia State University policy on ADA compliance passed in the ISAT Committee and Senate body. After evaluating her request, he felt this was beyond ISAT’s scope; as the committee was not formed to address all matters of computing, but to be an advisory group to the office of IS&T. He also felt this policy should follow the same route as all other policies that come to ISAT; that is, through IS&T. IS&T, he said, has the expertise in writing policies. He emphasized he thinks it is improper for the Chair of the ISAT Committee to widen the focus of the committee.

Mary Jane Casto agreed, and said there were IS&T staff capable of writing this policy. She pointed out Deanna Hines’ web staff in University Relations is responsible for Georgia State University’s web pages, not IS&T. Any proposed policy should have her involvement. Many faculty have web classes that would be affected by such a policy. Carolyn Gard is currently serving on an ADA Compliance Committee, charged by Ron Henry. Members include Carolyn Gergely, Valerie Fennel, someone from HR, Phillip Mitchem, Steven Rehberg, Susan Easterbrooks, and others. This is not a Senate committee. Phillip and Steven (no longer with Georgia State University) wrote a 10 page document on accessibility, and it was Mary Jane’s recommendation to the committee that this document be rewritten, edited, and condensed into the IS&T-approved format for policies.

Carolyn believes the standard that UETS uses for web pages is at level one compliance. However, she said, it is unclear whether universities have to comply with this mandate.
Committee members discussed:
- Who is this mandate applicable to?
- What are the legal implications?
- Is there a suite of tools that can check compliance? (The answer was yes)
- Would faculty be asked to use these time-consuming tools to check their sites?
- Should policy include information on what to do with legacy pages?

Carolyn Gard offered to research what the Board of Regents is requiring or endorsing. She feels a good faith effort on the unit or person’s part would be sufficient. However, as newer and better tools become available, becoming ADA compliant will be easier, she iterated. She offered UETS’ services in checking faculty web sites for compliance.

Marty recommended that IS&T staff review the current document, condense, and rewrite and forward to him for review consideration by the committee. He suggested setting realistic goals for compliance, and as better tools become available, to encourage their use.

**Draft Schedule for future meeting dates:**
The following dates for ISAT meetings have been approved:

**1:30-3:00 p.m. in 718 General Classroom**
- May 15
- June 26
- July 17
- August 28—Organizational Meeting
- September 18—Initial discussion of FY05 Tech Fee Call for Proposals
- October 23
- November 20
- December 18
- January 15, 2004
- February 19
- March 18
- April 15
- May 20
- June 17
- July 15
- August 26—Organizational Meeting

Scott Owen mentioned many faculty are paid on a nine-month basis and questioned scheduling meetings during the summer with the expectation that nine-month faculty would have to attend. Marty affirmed the need for the Senate ISAT meetings to be scheduled year round.

Meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.