Present: Tim Bartness, Laura Burtle, Mary Jane Casto, David Cheshier, Carolyn Codamo, Hector Fernandez, Martin Fraser, Stephen Harmon, Steve Kaminshine, Susan Laury, Thomas Netzel, Yi Pan, Cherise Peters, James Senn, Andrew Sumner, Susan Walcott, Richard Welke

Invited Guest: Amy Bruni

Minutes: The minutes were approved as distributed on January 13, 2004.

National Science Foundation Grant Proposal Update: This regards an NSF proposal that will provide cost-sharing funds for a Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) grant if the university will provide 30% of the funding costs for the project and submit a proposal. The current research computer, Cheetah, is being decommissioned and users have been, or will be, moved to other servers. The maintenance on the new computer will be considerably cheaper; it will have better architecture, will be fast, and will be a shared memory machine. Any Georgia State researcher may use the new server. Dr. Louis will provide the 30% match with $150,000. NSF notification of approval will be sometime in June, and anticipated date of delivery will be within 30-60 days after that. If this proposal is not accepted, it will be re-proposed as other NSF projects are offered in the future. Mary Jane will ask if maintenance is included in the proposal. [Three-year maintenance is included.]

TLTS Update: No report, since the committee has not met.

IS&T Budget Priorities: Of the two options offered for FY05 budget redirection, IS&T chose the option of the 5% permanent reduction or approximately $680,000. With this option, the first year IS&T will receive 50% and the 2nd year 25% of the reduction as lump sums, easing the burden of budget cuts. Support cost for the decommissioned mainframe, is approximately $420,000 annually, and will be part of the budget cut. The direct reports are meeting January 16 to discuss which vacant and retiree positions will be deleted, and if these are not sufficient to meet the reduction, will consider reduction of supply funds.

In discussing budgeting, could maintenance costs currently associated with the decommissioned Cheetah be transferred to pay the maintenance costs for the new research computer? Mary Jane will look into this. [$12,616.40—the answer is yes, we will earmark these funds for the new research computer—per MJ Casto after the meeting]

Thomas Netzel asked about web filing space, and it was suggested he look into Web DAV, FTP and Yahoo. Steven Harmon feels a more strategic solution is needed. Mary Jane will ask the IS&T staff to suggest a solution. [As of 2/23/04, IS&T staff is still investigating.]

CIO Search: Two candidates have been interviewed by various groups on campus. Another candidate is scheduled later in January. Members of ISAT are encouraged to attend when it is scheduled.

A Layperson’s Guide to University Information System Use Policies: Mary Jane reported the Deans requested a simplified written guide that will enable people to know what a policy is, who it applies to, and what the requirements for following the policy are. Mary Jane distributed a draft guide for the group to review. A suggested revision regarding the Wireless Access Policy, under “What needs to be done?” column, is to add effective June 1 to the statement “You must use a Virtual Private Network (VPN client). . . .” Revisions and/or corrections should be sent to mjcasto@gsu.edu.
Richard Welke mentioned his home computer virus updates arrive more frequently than the updates on the Georgia State servers and wondered why. Mary Jane said she thought our servers were updated twice daily, but that she would check into this. Live Update should **not** go to public!—if it does, call the Help Center at 1-4507.

Tom Netzel said he is having trouble getting into Spectrum through his ICA icon, and though he has reported it to the Help Center, he still has the problem. Mary Jane explained the application lives and runs on Citrix, instead of one’s workstation (which would be costly in hardware and person-power). In two years there will be a web-base version that will resolve this problem. Reportedly, ninety percent of the people are using the same password for both Citrix and PeopleSoft. Mary Jane said she would investigate the need for two passwords to get to Spectrum. He then asked if the Help Center could be set up to repair this problem remotely.

Steve Harmon said the College of Ed is requiring its students to have E-portfolios, and he asked if anyone at Georgia State is investigating E-portfolios. This would fall within the TLTS jurisdiction, and Marty Fraser will ask Missy Cody and George Pullman, co-chairs of this committee, to look into E-portfolios and to report back to ISAT Senate committee. [Carolyn Gard has communicated with Steve regarding initiatives she is aware of.]

**Vista:** Harmon also asked about the progress of the migration to Vista. Mary Jane iterated we are the host site for the Vista rollout, that there are product issues, and that Georgia State is not unique in its migration issues. WebCT staff are aware of the problem and are working on it. Clustering may be a fix, but the application code must be cognizant of clustering. A test this weekend will show if the fixes helped. If so, the Vista product may be ready for May semester. When the product is stable and safe, faculty will be asked to do trial runs. The University System is also working with WebCT staff to correct the problem. During the meantime, Georgia State University faculty have been offered the option of using WebCT 3.8 instead of migrating to Vista. WebCT corporate says Purdue University’s Vista is running well, and Georgia State University has been in contact with them. Vista has incredible functionality and WebCT’s 1995 technology is not data-based and uses only flat files.

Migration to Vista will require an increased workload on faculty and, possibly, a pool of talented students could be trained to assist faculty during this transition period and, perhaps, tech fees could be used to pay these students. This training would enhance our students’ skills and benefit the campus, as well. Mary Jane will look into this possibility.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m., enabling members to attend a town hall meeting scheduled at 3:00 in the Rialto.

The ISAT Chair cancelled the February 19 meeting and used this time for the 2005 Student Tech Fee Subcommittee’s organizational meeting. Currently, the next scheduled ISAT committee meeting is 1:30 p.m., March 18, 2004, in 718 General Classroom.