The October 28 meeting minutes were approved as revised and submitted.

**New Member:** Welcome to new student representative from Robinson College of Business, Funsho Ayo.

**Notification Statement:** Discussion postponed until John Marshall reviews the statement.

**Southern Light Rail:** J. L. said the Agreement has been executed for Georgia State’s participation in the Southern Light Rail. The SLR was created by Georgia Tech and is a nonprofit corporation of universities in the Southeast, to provide connections to the National LambdaRail for institutions in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Essentially, it allows GSU to get access to high bandwidth (10 gigabit), high performance, point-to-point networking, virtually anywhere in the world. Provost Henry has made a commitment to fund $100K per year to further research endeavors on campus and fully supports participation in the SLR. Jim asked if the main platform structure is already in place. J. L. answered there is a link from Georgia State’s campus network to the fiber gateway connecting point at the 56 Marietta Street location. Another loop will be at 345 Courtland Street. Jim asked if there will be special connections between universities. J. L. said there will be permanent physical connections/dedicated bandwidth. Savannah to Augusta is the only missing link. Users on campus will need a dedicated connection. J. L. will send the fiber route to the committee.

**Grid Conference at Georgia State University:** [http://www.nc.gsu.edu/~wwwacs/suragridconf/grid-workshop-agenda.html](http://www.nc.gsu.edu/~wwwacs/suragridconf/grid-workshop-agenda.html)

Art Vandenberg and the Academic Computing Services group, in connection with SURA, will host a SURA Cyberinfrastructure Workshop: Grid Application Planning & Implementation on January 5, 6 & 7, 2005, here at Georgia State University. The keynote speaker will be Edward Seidel, Director, Center for Computation & Technology from Louisiana State University. Along with Art, other speakers from Georgia State are Dr. Yi Pan and Nova Ahmed.

**Definition of Grid Computing:** Communication linking multiple PCs in a network by a software driven program, for solving problems too intensive for any stand-alone machine (collaborative problem-solving). Dr. Pan said the original idea was to make the use of grid computing as simple as turning on lights or water.

**Requests for extensions of FY2005 Tech Fee Award Expenditures:** The cut-off date for tech fee expenditures is November 15 and after that date, monies are swept; however, J. L. has received approximately 35 requests for extensions. When he could, he has granted the extensions. This problem goes back three years and he believes a change in behavior should be imposed. He suggested changing the cut-off date to December 15, then allowing no extensions (except for dire circumstances, such as construction hold-ups).
Tom does not think behaviors will change, no matter the deadline, but he recommended a deadline of December 31, with no further extensions. If funds are not spent by that date, the proposal would go back to the Tech Fee Subcommittee for resubmission. Monies will be swept on or after January 1. Construction delays that will hold up the purchase of computers will be the only legitimate reason to request an extension.

Marty does not want the Student Tech Fee Subcommittee to review proposals a second time; their job is to look at new proposals. He prefers the ISAT committee to discuss proposals submitted for an extension. J. L. shares Marty’s concerns and also prefers the committee review these requests as he does not want to unilaterally make the decision, given that he has no history at Georgia State in that area.

Nancy said she would like it acknowledged that things happen to people of good faith that are beyond their control because of unfortunate occurrences at GSU.

Motion made that tech fee monies must be encumbered by December 31, with the only exception being construction delays, and in that event, a written request will be made to the chair of the Senate ISAT Committee before December 31. All requests will be considered at the first January ISAT committee meeting. Motion seconded and passed.

Other Discussion: Marty informed the committee that he had heard from Dr. Hugh Hudson, Chair of the Budget committee, that Southern Poly Tech had made significant savings on their voice over IP by running their system with a standard analog phone, eliminating the need for specific voice over IP telephone hardware at the desktop.

Jim asked for a definition of voice over IP: VoIP, or Voice over Internet Protocol, is a method for taking analog audio signals, like the kind you hear when you talk on the phone, and turning them into digital data that can be transmitted over the internet. J. L. explained that we have completed a test pilot in IS&T with CISCO phones at 120 desks.

Until recently, the Board of Regents has been required to purchase phone services from GTA which contracts with BellSouth. GSU spends approximately $3 million annually for phone services. The Board of Regents now has authority to purchase their own phone services. J. L. and Mark Roberson recently attended a telephone seminar at the Board of Regents in Athens. Representatives were from CISCO, BellSouth, Nortel, Shortel, and Avaya. OIIT in Athens is using Avaya phone sets. Testimonials were heard from ABAC, West Georgia and Southern Polytech. J. L. said the Southern Polytech system will not scale for Georgia State. A pure VoIP system is preferable over a hybrid system.

J. L. emphasized that before you put VoIP on a data network, a very high quality network must be in place. Before going to VoIP, we need to resolve any network issues and make certain it is updated. Tom asked if the system could be phased in over a period of time. It is best to change over at one time because of the difficulty of running two systems. The revenue stream for paying for VoIP already exists; we will use the money now paid to GTA. VoIP potentially eliminates some long distance charges as well. Georgia Tech anticipates a savings of $2.5 million over a 5-year period. J. L. said that IS&T has met with two vendors so far to get a ballpark estimate of the cost to GSU, but he is not close yet to determining a cost. The vendor will supply technical resources for planning. A turnkey system is part of the vendor package. J. L. said this is also a potentially money-making venture, as outside providers will be willing to pay for our network services.

J. L. said that IS&T has permission to begin the discovery phase and investigate the available systems from various vendors. Randall Thursby will have to approve purchase of a system.

Meeting adjourned 2:50 PM.
Respectfully submitted,
December 1, 2004
Carolyn Summerlin