Minutes were approved unanimously without discussion.

Web policy regarding the adoption of Red Dot to be the sole conduit of official university information, to ensure currency, consistency, brand identity, and legal oversight.

Mary Jane Casto briefly summarized the document, indicating its importance for maintaining a consistent look and feel as well for all official GSU web presented information to be responsive to both the World Wide Web consortium's policy on standard coding practices and the Americans with Disabilities Act access requirements. The policy also indicates that uniformity will be achieved and maintained by requiring the use of the Content Management System RedDot for all official GSU pages.

A spirited conversation ensued, the tenor of which was complete support for the endorsement of web and usability standards as well as some acknowledgment of legal and marketing concerns for a consistent public online representation of GSU.

There were several concerns expressed.

There was some doubt about what constitutes an "official " GSU page, whether it is anything with a gsu.edu url, as JL said the legal standard indicates or if the intention of the document was to restrict the designation to content more like that

Hassan advised that while the policy exempted faculty from using Red Dot, the exemption was not vividly enough asserted.

Some technical concerns were discussed: Liz expressed concern, echoed by Ed Bullwinkel, that the lengthy urls necessitated by the elimination of aliases might make it difficult for students to find information that is currently easy to find.
James Jones observed that RedDot does not support WEBDAV and would thus require reconfiguration of the servers he is responsible for.

George Pullman suggested that if any of the representatives wished to bring the matter back to their respective units, that he would forward any emailed comments to MJ.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM

Subsequent to the meeting, George Pullman received three emails regarding the web policy.

Liz Throop suggested that “In the ‘site Locations’ section, change the last sentence to read: ‘Student Web pages must reside on www.student.gsu.edu rather than the main GSU domain.’” (email to gpullman@gsu.edu, 11-18-2006).

Liz Talamas, from RCB via James Jones again, asked the following questions:

How will approvals prior to page publication work? Who will do the approving? Will this not be a bottleneck? What does development mean? If you allow external providers will they be developing in RedDot? What will be the point of having an external vendor if it must comply with policy?

Already there are pages that must be developed outside of Red Dot because RedDot does not have the ability to display dynamic pages with data pulled from a database. (via email forwarded by James Jones, 11-17-2006)

Earl Daniels, College of Law Web Coordinator, said, in essence, that while the goal of the policy is sound, RedDot will not achieve the goal (email forwarded from James Jones, 11-28-2006).

Respectfully submitted, January 12, 2007
George Pullman