Senate Information Systems & Technology (ISAT)
Thursday, May 17, 2007
1:30 PM
718 General Classroom Building

Minutes

In Attendance:

Brendan Calandra  Shiferaw Gurmu  Bill Paraska  Raj Sunderraman
Mary Jane Casto  James Jones  Cherise Peters
David Cheshier  Yi Pan  George Pullman
Susan Easterbrooks  Karen Oates  Nancy Schafer

CALLED TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved with correction. The statement “The Chairman asked Raj Sunderraman to update the Committee on the HIPAA policy”, under the section Data Stewardship, will be deleted from the minutes.

CLASSROOMS AND FACILITIES

Dr. Pullman explained that this item is being addressed because of tech fees requested for the remaining rooms in Sparks Hall that were not funded. There were reports that Sparks Hall would be demolished and that this Committee should not fund technology enhancement for Sparks Hall classrooms. Dr. Pullman read the statement Edgar Torbert, of the Classroom Facilities Council (CFC), issued concerning Sparks Hall:

The tenor of the discussions has been that instructional technology has a 3-4 year life span, and so any building, which will be used for 3-4 years, is worth equipping. We do not know when the Humanities Building will be funded, and Sparks Hall demolished. The capital projects list formerly maintained by the Board of Regents is no longer in force. A new process for distributing capital funds among University System institutions is under development. We do not know how the Humanities Building will fare in the new process. It was at least 4-5 years away under the old process. There is a chance it could be funded earlier, but the current slowdown in issuing bonds for capital projects could push it farther back. And, there is always a lag between the funding decision and construction as with the Science Teaching Laboratories Building.

My educated guess is that Sparks Hall will be used as a classroom building at least through 2011-2012.
CLASSROOMS AND FACILITIES (continued . . .)

Given Edgar Torbert’s response, Dr. Pullman suggested that the Committee give any Sparks Hall technology funding proposals positive consideration for Fiscal Year 2009. Dr. Pullman stated that it is important that this Committee work closely with CFC to ensure the expectations of CFC are met in tech fee considerations.

HIPAA SANCTION POLICY

James Jones stated that the HIPAA Sanction Policy was put on hold, awaiting clarification from Jeannie Barrett (Legal Counsel). James reported the Jeannie Barrett responded to the Committee’s questions and concerns. She gave the following statement:

Upon review, I decided that the policy already covered everyone that it should. Researchers who are using PHI are either going to be using it in their role as employees or business associates (and therefore will be subject to the HIPAA sanction policy) or they will be using it pursuant to IRB approval and will be subject to the IRB noncompliance policy. So, everyone is covered. Our duties as a covered entity to have a sanction policy only extends to those performing work for us (either using PHI for our University purposes or in the context of the University performing work as the business associate of another covered entity).

Nancy Schaefer posed questions concerning this policy and a discussion ensued.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the HIPAA Sanction Policy as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION PROTECTION POLICY

James Jones stated the Information Protection Policy was essentially to create a policy to deal with securing confidential information in the event of a network attack, breach or compromise of the network data, etc. Mary Jane Casto clarified that this policy is already in existence. However, it was revised to address the handling of social security numbers. John Bandy stated that the elimination of using social security numbers will begin in the Fall. This will affect all students, faculty and staff. All students will be issued a new identification card. Cherise Peters thought would be a good idea to have the Tim Woltering, Project Lead/Manager, to update the Committee on the Luminis and Social Security Numbers projects. Dr. Pullman concurred. David Cheshier reminded the Committee that the reason the Information Protection Policy was not approved earlier was because the Committee did not want to implement the revised Information Protection Policy, if it meant putting GSU in violation of said policy. Discussion ensued.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the Information Protection Policy as presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
CLICKERS IN THE CLASSROOMS

Mary Jane Casto shared the results of a study conducted at the University of Minnesota about the use of clickers or response systems in the classrooms. The study is twelve-page document which was distributed by EDUCAUSE. One of the conclusions of the study suggested that universities settle on one technology for the use of the clickers. Mary Jane’s concern is that the receiver, required by the any response system, could become part of GSU’s standard package for classroom technology. James Jones asked MJ Casto for additional information concerning the status of clickers being used on the university campus now. Discussion ensued.

**Action Item:** Mary Jane Casto will send Committee members a copy of the Minnesota’s study. Brendan Calandra will send Committee members an article from Horizon Report 2007 concerning emerging technology and their effects on higher education on teaching learning expressions.

RED DOT

David Cheshire wanted to know what university resources are available to colleges and departments converting current websites to Red Dot. Mary Jane Casto explained that Red Dot is an University mandate. The timetable is anywhere from 18-24 months. Ms. Casto also stated that the University provides editor training, but not training for an administrator. Training for an administrator has to be conducted by Red Dot. She highly recommended sending website development personnel to Red Dot training, which is currently in New York. Occasionally, training sessions are held in Atlanta or in the state of Georgia. Training is one week and the training costs $3,825. James Jones asked if there is an ad hoc committee for the Red Dot project. MJ Casto stated that the campus Webmasters meet once a month and she would ask them to add James Jones to the list. Discussion followed.

MEETING DATES AND TIMES

The next meeting will be Thursday, June 21, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Carroll