Senate Information Systems & Technology (ISAT)
Thursday, August 20, 2009
1:30 PM
718 General Classroom Building

Minutes

In Attendance:

J.L. Albert  Joel Glogowski  George Pullman  Michael Weeks
Randall Alberts  Audrey Goodman  Mike Russell  Yichuan Zhao
Julian Allen  Kathryn Grant  Ellen Taylor
Jeremy Crampton  Chip Hill  Irene Weber

CALLED TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of April 23, 2009, as presented.

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Pullman explained that the purpose of ISAT for new members, whose task is to set policies for information systems and technology; and broadcast technology opportunities to the university.

DIGITAL APPLICATIONS AND CRITICAL THINKING

Dr. Pullman reminded the ISAT members of the presentation and workshop on September 18th, conducted by Drs. Richard Miller and Paul Hammond from Rutgers University. Their visit will consist of a presentation in the morning and a workshop in the afternoon. Drs. Miller and Hammond travel across the country demonstrating how to infuse multimedia in higher education classrooms. Their focus is using multimedia to enhance writing skills.

If you are interested, please email Dr. Pullman so he can get you on the list. All faculty and students are invited. Dr. Pullman will send ISAT members the link which contains the videos showing the professors’ work. Right now, their lecture and workshop are planned for one day. JL Albert announced that IS&T will cover the costs and more information considering the event will be distributed to the faculty, staff and students.
BUDGET CUTBACKS AND IS&T

JL Albert gave the committee an update on IS&T’s budget cuts. JL reported the IS&T lost a total of eight (8) full time positions. In addition, three (3) vacant positions were eliminated. Staffing levels are down, but this will not affect the service. IS&T had to give back approximately $800,000 in telephone operating funds. There is also talk about eliminating IS&T’s capital funds, which means IS&T won’t be able to purchase new equipment. If that happens, IS&T would have to get funding from other sources such as FACP.

JL stated that he is trying not to reduce IT services. There might be a service impact, but he is looking at areas of service where there is a lot of duplication or services with marginal value. The Web support department was reduced, as well as Workplace Tech, which could impact classroom support. IS&T is trying to maintain the same level of service that it has provided in the past. JL asked the committee for their patient during this transition. Discussion followed as members posed questions.

FUTURE TOPICS

Dr. Pullman briefly reviewed some of the topics the committee will discuss this year and asked for additional topics deemed necessary:

- Policy of Storage and Email Archives
- Software Site Licenses
- Duplicate IT Services – Dr. Pullman said that a sub-committee of ISAT is reviewing IT services that are provided across the campus. This report should be ready in a month.
- Campus Computer Labs – Dr. Pullman requested a demo of the virtual lab purchased by Tech Fees.
- Clickers – Dr. Pullman stated more faculty members are interested in using this technology. He would like to invite a representative to give a demo.
- Revising the Tech Fee Process including Funding Categories
- Microsoft Exchange Potential Migration - JL stated that the University is looking at using Microsoft Exchange for email services.
- The Exchange and The Aquarium – Dr. Pullman suggested that the committee be given a tour of both facilities.
- Classroom Video Capture
- Distance Learning Strategies
- Element K
- Polycom Video Conferencing
- Pod Casting
- Utilizing Technology for Growing Student Population
OTHER

Michael Weeks posed a question concerning the Math Lab site license, which expires in 13 days. JL stated that half the math lab license was paid by IS&T and the other half by someone else. He stated Disbursements should have the paperwork, which was approved for payment. This license, which costs $100,000, is not funded. JL will investigate to see if this license can be paid by Student Tech Fee funds.

Michael is also concerned about outgoing emails going to the recipient as spam or being blocked. JL stated that IS&T can pinpoint the problem if they have the addresses and systems involved. Please report these occurrences to the Helpdesk. Discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Carroll