ITCC Annual Report 2014-2015

For this and our monthly minutes, see:
http://facultysenate.mst.edu/infortechnology/

Elected Officers:

Chair: Thomas Vojta, Physics
Vice Chair: John Singler, Mathematics
Research Subcommittee Chair: Richard Dawes, Chemistry
eLearning Subcommittee Chair: Jeff Schramm, History & Political Science
Computer Security Subcommittee Chair: Don Wunsch, Electrical & Computer Eng.

The following issues have been dealt with by the ITCC in the current academic year:

1. Learning Management System. The transition from Blackboard to Canvas as S&T’s learning management system (LMS) was a major topic throughout the academic year. S&T’s decision to move from Blackboard to Canvas was put on hold by the UM System at the beginning of the 2014/15 academic year to allow other campuses to go through their own evaluation of the different LMS. Even though UM Columbia finished this review and recommended Canvas, the transition was still stalled at the time of the last meeting in April 2015. ITCC adopted several motions concerning this topic, see list of motions below.

2. Google Services: Google Services for the campus have been enhanced (unlimited storage, Google Vault for archiving, audit capabilities). Use of Google services has been approved for storage of most campus data (data classification level DCL1 to DCL3 which includes student data, personnel/HR information and records). DCL4 not allowed (highly restricted data include patient information, social security numbers, credit card numbers, and biometric data). These topics were discussed during the meetings in October, November, January and February.

3. Computer Security: In September and October, ITTC discussed the changed password policy (since the beginning of the 2014/15 academic year, users must change password at least once a year) and the accompanying mandatory computer security training. Additional training modules were discussed in April. Travel laptops are now available through Security and Asset management (for travel to areas where intellectual property theft is a risk to campus data).

4. Research Computing: The Research and Technology Development conference (Sep 15-16,
2014) focused on three topics relevant to ITCC: Computational Science, Additive Manufacturing (3D Printing), and Large Scale Visualization. In October, ITCC discussed the IT research support services on campus – what should IT focus on? At the February meeting, ITCC discussed the planned upgrade of the high-performance computing hardware (640 new CPU cores).

5. **CIO Transition.** The previous CIO, Greg Smith, resigned at the end of the 2014/15 academic year. Dan Uetrecht, director of networks and computing in Missouri S&T’s IT division, has been named interim CIO effective June 1, 2015. This was an important topic in the April ITCC meeting.

6. **Further topics:** Further ITCC topics included campus network upgrades (wireless, VPN, ResNet, VOIP, Eduroam), the UM System wide data-center consolidation, Peoplesoft, campus and academic department websites, as well as the Scholar’s mine repository. Details can be found in the ITCC meeting minutes.

The first meeting of next academic year will be on **Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 4-5:30 PM, Room 208 Physics**, unless otherwise announced prior to that date. The agenda will include election of new officers, CIO transition update, Scheduling of Upcoming Meetings, and IT Organization.

Motions are summarized on the following page.
Motions listed by month (excluding those to approve minutes or to adjust dates or agendas of meetings)

January 2015:

ITCC requests that the UM System Information Security & Access Management (ISAM) team reviews & designates the appropriate Data Classification Levels for Google Apps for Education.

Motion carried unanimously.

February 2015:

ITCC strongly supports the adoption of Canvas as the Learning management system on campus, as recommended by the LMS Committee last year. ITCC requests that we are allowed to move forward a.s.a.p. so that Canvas is available at the end of 2015.

Motion carried unanimously.

March 2015:

To the Faculty Senate:

The ITCC again strongly endorses a change to the Canvas LMS and urges the Faculty Senate to assist in making this happen.

To the Provost:

The ITCC has strongly endorsed a change to the Canvas LMS. We urge you to immediately take steps to get this to happen.

Both motions passed unanimously.