# ITCC Annual Report 2015-2016

**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: Daniel Tauritz, Computer Science

ITCC met regularly every second Wednesday of the month. In addition, we had a special meeting in October 2015 concerning changes in the IT Budget. The following issues were addressed by ITCC in the 2015/16 academic year:

1. **Learning Management System.** The transition from Blackboard to Canvas as S&T's learning management system (LMS) continued to be a major topic throughout the academic year. ITCC discussed the progress of this transition at several meetings.

2. **Student IT fee.** In September and October 2015, ITCC discussed the use of the student IT fee and in particular plans to withhold part of this fee from the IT budget. ITCC expressed strong concerns about this which lead to a special ITCC meeting in October with Provost Marley, Vice Chancellor Branson, Vice Chancellor Wray, Vice Provost Krishnamurthy and Assistant Vice Chancellor Petroy. As a result, all of the student IT fee remained within IT.

3. **IT Budget Priorities.** Vice Chancellor Branson requested input from ITCC on budget priorities for IT. Together with the IT leadership, ITCC created a prioritized list of supplementary budget requests that would most benefit the campus community (October/November 2015).

4. **Research Computing:** Research Computing Subcommittee chair Richard Dawes led a successful initiative to improve high-performance computing on campus. It secured funding from the campus for a backup generator for the HPC data center (installed in summer 2016). Moreover, a significant expansion of the high-performance computing cluster on campus is planned for fall 2016.

5. **IT Personnel Issues:** ITCC discussed repeatedly the difficulties IT has in finding and hiring suitable staff as well as the impact on research and teaching on campus. This is a particular problem in the research support group. The lead HPC support person left, and IT has been unable to find suitable candidates, partially because IT is not able to offer competitive salaries.

6. **Further topics:** Further ITCC topics included websites for the campus, academic departments, and faculty (and the funding of web developer positions); the myVita accomplishment system; mass email systems; the IT satisfaction survey; campus power outages and their effects on computing equipment; as well as IT procurement policies. Details can be found in the ITCC meeting minutes.


The first meeting of 2016/17 academic year will be held on **Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 4:00 PM, Room 208 Physics**, unless otherwise announced prior to that date.  The agenda will include election of new officers, and the Scheduling of Upcoming Meetings.