

RE: May ITCC meeting

Thursday, May 12, 2011
8:45 AM

Subject	RE: May ITCC meeting
From	Gao, Stephen S.
To	Wunsch, Donald C.; itcc-grp@mst.edu
Cc	Chancellor, Beth C.; Allen, Gary K.; Isaac, Kakkattukuzhy M.; ajberry@usa.net; Cline, Margaret; Hale, Barbara N.; Liu, Xiaoping Frank; Lutzen, Karl F.; Madria, Sanjay; Miller, Ann; Potthast, Adam; samulde@sandia.gov; Stanley, R. Joe; Ta uritz, Daniel R.; Worsey, Paul Nicholas; Zawodniok, Maciej Jan
Sent	Monday, May 09, 2011 3:50 PM

Hi Don and everyone else,

I forwarded the proposal to the faculty in my department and received some feedbacks. The one below is the strongest and most detailed. At the request of the sender, I removed a few sentences. Just for your information.

Steve Gao, Department of Geological Sciences and Engineering.

This proposed system will sap productivity and brings to mind the disaster that is Peoplesoft. It should be opposed at all levels. The Chancellor and Provost should be asked to get involved and listen to the faculty members and not be swayed by the self-serving argument of the legal and information security personnel. These types of systems come in with great promise and then end up with great disappointment. Consider these things that have been implemented in the last 5 years or so:

- 1) Everyone hates Peoplesoft accounting; it cost \$40 million to implement and requires each department to hire a specialist.
- 2) Nobody likes BlackBoard; the latest revision made a slow un-intuitive interface even more un-intuitive.
- 3) Momentum (web authoring software) is so difficult to use, un-intuitive, and inefficient that we need to hire web developers when we used to be able to do this all ourselves.
- 4) Joe'SS works OK, but is very poorly laid out and inefficient (Did I mention un-intuitive).
- 5) Student email changes made last year have been met with significant student complaints. It is not overstating the case to call this a debacle from the viewpoint of the students.

In short what is being proposed is another "debacle" that will undoubtedly result in increase cost and reduced productivity, from the same people that brought us the previous debacles. Although I have no reason to believe this, it is possible that the new software works as advertised (unlike the other junk that has been foisted upon us), but it will still reduce efficiency. For instance, when we travel using our current system and cannot connect to the web, we can still go over old emails, answer them, draft new ones, and send them once we get back in connection with the internet. The new system would prohibit this in multiple ways. And how can it be decided that important emails cannot be archived by the user when there is no guarantee that the university will keep these available? And how do you organize and retrieve old emails? If anything like the web-base Outlook application, the tools are just not there and it will be a slow and cumbersome task to find and retrieve older messages.

Let me suggest the following: If Columbia wants this, let them commence a two year pilot project over there, and solicit faculty feedback after that. Let each campus decide.

From: Wunsch, Donald C. [<mailto:dwunsch@mst.edu>]

Sent: Thu 5/5/2011 11:11

To: itcc-grp@mst.edu

Cc: Chancellor, Beth C.; Allen, Gary K.; Isaac, Kakkattukuzhy M.; ajberry@usa.net; Cline, Margaret; Hale, Barbara N.; Liu, Xiaoqing Frank; Lutzen, Karl F.; Madria, Sanjay; Miller, Ann; Potthast, Adam; samulde@sandia.gov; Stanley, R. Joe; Tauritz, Daniel R.; Worsley, Paul Nicholas; Zawodniok, Maciej Jan

Subject: FW: May ITCC meeting

Dear ITCC members,

We will definitely continue the discussion of email concerns in the next ITCC meeting. Attached is a document wherein the UM System is considering the following steps:

1. Consolidating all email into one big system.
2. Requiring us to use that system, and not alternative email services.
3. Archiving the emails centrally, for a duration decided by the system and not by the user.
4. Prohibiting (and preventing through technological and policy measures) the individual archiving of emails.
5. Doing this all very rapidly, i.e., July or August 2011.

While there are legitimate reasons cited for these steps, there are also reasons for significant concerns about a policy change of this magnitude. And the speed of planned implementation is definitely something we should discuss.

By cc: of this email I'm asking K.M. Isaac to have RP&A place the ITCC Report on the agenda of the June Faculty Senate meeting. We had planned to report in September but we will probably want to weigh in on this issue before the changes become a fait accompli. Also our IFC Representative should be alerted to weigh in on this today if at all possible.

Please plan to attend the May meeting and send an alternate from your department if you can't make it.

Thanks!

Yours truly,

Don

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Missouri University of Science & Technology
is known as Missouri S&T for short. It was
previously known as the University of Missouri - Rolla (UMR).

From: Cline, Margaret
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2011 10:18 AM
To: Wunsch, Donald C.
Subject: RE: May ITCC meeting

Don,

In the CIO meeting this morning, the attached document was distributed. I understand it will be presented to the IFC later today. Please distribute it to the membership.

From: Wunsch, Donald C. [<mailto:dwunsch@mst.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 4:43 PM
To: itcc-grp@mst.edu
Subject: May ITCC meeting

Dear ITCC Colleagues,

The May meeting is coming fast upon us!
Please send any suggested agenda items if you wish. Margaret and I will meet Monday to discuss it but anything you send before then will also be considered.

One thing we will do is the usual approval of the minutes. They were sent out just after the previous meeting are attached again for your convenience.

The ITCC meeting will be next Wednesday, May 11, 4-5:30, in room 236 EECH.
Thanks!

Yours truly,

Don

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