

ITCC Open Forum

Participants gathered at 1 PM and picked up lunch and refreshments that were provided. (These were left over from the Teaching & Learning Technology Conference and provided by vendors. The ITCC thanks the conference organizers and vendors, particularly Angie Hammons and Meg Brady.)

Meeting called to order by Don Wunsch at 1:15

Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting (attached)

(Moved to fourth agenda item) Approved unanimously

IT Project Management Update

Presentation by Vicki Callaway

Vicki walked through the information on project management available at:

<http://it.mst.edu/documents/ITPPMOverviewPrintable.pdf>

Vicki also walked us through the process proposal and approval tool:

https://itweb.mst.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/itppm/reports/approved_charters.pl

A discussion ensued on the cost of system-level mandates.

We are pretty good at estimating our own projects. However, System-initiated projects sometime are drawn out. Some people spend 3-4 hours weekly in related meetings.

Overall, roughly 10 – 15% of IT's people are spending 10% time. Typically these are some of the most critically-needed people. There are concerns about the potential impact on cost and on quality of service.

Communications / Web Presence

Andy Careaga, Cheryl McKay, and Jessica Maglinger came to brief the committee.

Slides from Jessica are attached.

Phase 1: Gateway & Global Navigation – web site #1 marketing tool change gateway

Also Social Media Presence

Phase 2: Jan 1 – July 1, 2011

Talking to academic content authors (access to Documentum, updates academic program sites and department sites) and chairs

It is possible to email web support to know who your department's content author is.

Electronic marketing has created a Web Resources Blog to get input from content authors:

<http://webresources.mst.edu/2011/02/we-want-your-input.html>

They are also improving YouTube, Flickr, similar media presence

They will use the Blog to share successes on these initiatives.

There is an effort underway to identify a successor to Documentum.

A discussion ensued on why Communications doesn't report to IT. However, not much sentiment exists in favor of such a relationship. The need for a university-wide vision for Communications was recognized, but Communications is a customer of IT, not a part of IT. Communications works closely with writers, photographers, videographers and content creators.

Margaret stated that we don't want IT driving content, but facilitating it.

Cheryl: Worked in IT as Webmaster earlier. IT is enabling, not creating.

Communications does meet with other campuses to share lessons learned.

The web site creation policy was decided by a web committee years ago. ITCC was not consulted.

Prof. Stutts expressed objection to calling sites "Personal Sites". These are professional projects, created often with students, technical content, careful about security concerns, etc.

Prof. Vojta pointed out that there are two issues: 1. Adequate Resources; 2. Control of Creation of a Web Subdomain.

The latter is inherited from guidelines created by the Office of Sponsored Programs, which approves what can be called a Center.

Creating a web site via Google Apps is an option.

However, general dissatisfaction was expressed with the obstacles in getting research results publicized and related material created for the Web.

Thomas Vojta, motion; Al Crosbie second:

Historically, the ITCC was not consulted when policies pertaining to Web presence, Electronic Marketing, Web site creation, URL assignment, and associated reporting relationships were decided

upon. The faculty reminds the administration that the ITCC is the right place to initiate and revise policy discussions pertaining to these matters. In view of rapidly changing technologies, policies such as these need to be reexamined.

Motion carried unanimously.

eLearning Strategic Plan

Meg Brady presented the attached slides.

There is a spectrum of course presentation formats: Traditional, web-facilitated, Blended/Hybrid, Online (Allen & Seaman, "Staying the Course: Online Education in the United States" 2008 www.sloan-c.org)

We have encountered a perfect Storm for eLearning: funding reductions, hiring freeze, workload problems, enrollment growth, space shortage, System strategic initiative Jan 2009 Online learning double enrollment in 5 years.

In 2009 we initiated an eFellows pilot program: Kelly Grasman, Ryan Hutchinson, Jeff Thomas, all teaching professors, participated.

In 2010 we established a Community of Practice.

IT is requesting faculty input on the university's eLearning policy.

Themes include: Improve Learning Environment, Expand Access, Leverage Resources

We need discussions re the financial model at all levels. 40% of revenue currently goes to the department. Departments can charge different amounts.

Asynchronously delivered coursework is now still brand-new, thus an opportunity for creative approaches.

This might help with chronically over-enrolled courses that are often wait-listed. Also, large enrollment classes can be a big problem.

EMGT does a lot of this and has feedback. In particular, EMGT wants more testing centers made available, particularly in Seattle. These courses generate enough revenue that the university should pay third parties for this service if necessary.

How to best respond to the request for feedback is an agenda item for next meeting. Perhaps we should create or modify a task force on this topic.

Listserv Changes

A demo was done to show how to migrate listserv accounts to Google apps.

See http://itpress.mst.edu/2011/01/st_listserv_lists_moving_to_go.html

for details.

Here is a link to Google's help for enabling multiple Google sign in to accounts -

<http://www.google.com/support/accounts/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=181599>

Research Computing Update & Data Management Plan Update

Scholars Mine: A Guide to Research Data Management

Make sure to look there!

Data Management Template

Also, example from DW available through Krishna

Please cite properly!!

Roger is available to help...

Research Computing Support

Challenges hiring and retaining, are trying to do internal promotions...

HPD, Labview, Linux user communities

Refining mission with our input

Getting Proactive about Computer Security Responsibilities – A Case Study (please see attached)

The article was discussed at length and there was a general consensus that we wouldn't want this university to engage in the kind of scapegoating that took place at UNC. For one thing, it would impede the search for lessons learned. For another, it would hurt the institution's ability to attract active researchers. PI's do have responsibility over their projects but the university should have controls in

place and feedback mechanisms so that if necessary activities, staffing, and training are not happening the problem can be identified and corrected before it blows up. And if something happens despite best efforts, the focus should be on mitigating and learning rather than casting blame.

It was pointed out that IT experts are held to a different standard because they are professionals who are hired and reviewed specifically with regard to IT responsibilities. Faculty members are neither hired nor reviewed by these criteria.

There was a small Missouri S&T breach about 3 weeks ago. We had to send letters to those affected. There was a departmental server without proper firewalls. 20 applicants were affected. The server has been secured and department has been instructed how to protect it.

John Bax pointed out that an unprotected server is likely to be hacked within 5 minutes. It is best to go through IT to avoid these types of problems.

Be very careful of home machines, because they are outside the network.

Motion: David Wright, English & Tech Comm, second Thomas Vojta, Physics

The ITCC recognizes that problems are never guaranteed to be avoidable. Therefore we recommend that the university adopt a perspective of learning from problems rather than identifying scapegoats. We also recommend that individuals with responsibilities for the protection of sensitive data seek the involvement of professionals to ensure that safety is provided. Furthermore, guidance to accomplish this should be provided to people with such responsibilities.

Motion carried unanimously

The Computer Security Video Competition

Results not yet known, make sure to view them at the IT main page. They are all very good (and some are also funny). The typical duration is 2 minutes.

New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15