

University of Utah
Information Technology Council
Executive Committee

April 10, 2008

THE MINUTES

Council Members in Attendance:

Cathy Anderson, Kenning Arlitsch, Ed Barbanell, David Blackburn, Paul Brinkman, Norm Chambers, Thomas Cheatham, Dean Church, Steve Corbato, Clif Drew, Tim Ebner, Julio Facelli, Carla Flynn, Carole Gassert, Chuck Hansen, Kay Harward, Steve Hess, Dave Huth, Phil Johnson, Chris Kidd, Lisa Kuhn, Helen Lacy, Jim Livingston, Nancy Lombardo, Trevor Long, Paula Millington, Joyce Mitchell, Tony Murillo, Larry Okun, Joyce Ogburn, Brent Park, Jim Parker, Rita Reusch, Steve Reynolds, Brent Schneider, Joe Taylor, Kevin Taylor, Daniel Trentman, Jeff West, Chuck Wight, Joanne Yaffe,

Guests and Other Attendee's:

Dave Adams, Craig Bennion, Joe Breen, Rene Eborn, Julia Harrison, Lisa Hemsley, Dan Hutten, Randy Madsen, Pam Mollner, Scott Narus, Lonnie Norton, Kevin O'Keefe, Caprice Post, Joan Stoddart, Cory Stokes, Jessica Stokes, Chad Thurman, Jim Turnbull, Hang Wong, Judy Yeates, Michael K. Young

- I: Introductions and Welcome – Joyce Mitchell
Special welcome to President Michael Young
- II: Approval of the Minutes – February 14, 2008 Minutes – Approved
- III: CIO Report – Steve Hess
- Impact of IT on Higher Education
 - Follow-up : Student clickers and access to student directories

A summary of the 2007 – 2008 Horizon Report was reviewed with the Council members. The report emphasizes that the rapid rate of technological advance is having a two-fold impact on Higher Education.

- o Students, faculty and staff welcome and demand new technology and electronic services.
- o The increased demand raises costs and creates new management and operational challenges that institutions must face.

The Higher Education IT environment is constantly changing. The report outlines or highlights many of the challenges.

- o Demand for new e-services
- o Wireless access and mobility
- o Distance education
- o Meet the needs of non-traditional students
- o Competing with the private sector higher education providers.

The report also focuses on issues such as,

- o Information Literacy
- o Increasing Globalization
- o Academic Review Processes

- Collective Intelligence
- Student Views of Technology
- Critical Challenges and Technologies to Watch.

Copies of the summary are available by contacting Steve Hess or Kevin Taylor.

In the February ITC meeting it was recommended that ITC members attend the student commission meeting to refer two agenda items to the commission for review:

- Student Clickers
- Public access to student directory information.

Steve Hess, Kay Harward and Tim Ebner attended the student commission meeting where these items were discussed.

Student Clickers – Student commission members are aware that there are several “clicker” solutions that have been implemented on campus. They have asked that colleges and departments make every attempt to standardize on systems that can be used in more than one class, and/or can be resold to other students.

It is recommended that a small group be convened comprised of some faculty who are already using the various clickers, someone from CTLE, someone from TACC, and representatives from the student senate to investigate the issue and make a recommendation to ITC. ITC approved the recommendation.

Student Directory – student commission members prefer to have their directory information remain on the public directory rather than on a closed directory. Students who prefer not to have their information on the public directory are able to opt-out at the beginning of fall semester through use of the FERPA flag.

IV: President Young’s Vision of IT for Campus – Michael K. Young

President Young expressed his compliments to the IT Council, its committees and staff for the work being done for IT governance, policy and planning. He expressed his confidence that the IT initiatives and strategic planning will move forward. Collectively the leadership of the University realizes how important a council like this is and appreciates the time and cooperative effort this group contributes to move us forward in this important strategic area of the University.

The President has made IT a central and strategic part of the Administration, believing that the University has an operational dependency on IT and that it is embedded into the processes and services it provides. Students, patients, faculty and staff need and demand current technology such as wireless, email, online courses, high performance computing and library materials. IT can provide for greater efficiency and quality through the automation of paper-based processes and transactions. Of interest also is the profound effect that IT plays in virtually every role on campus. In the past, IT was primarily had its impact on centralized administration and research. Now virtually every person on campus is directly affected by information technology. We’ve moved far from the “old correspondence course” to distance learning courses being provided today. These courses are a key to instructing students in a way that conforms to the student’s requirements for flexibility. Also important is the the ability to reach out to non-traditional students who work or may return to school to continue their education, or retirees who wish to take courses that interest them at a different point in their lives.

President Young appreciates having the CIO at the Cabinet level to ensure that the President and other cabinet leaders are fully informed regarding IT projects and their impact on campus.

The President thanked many individuals and IT organizations including Joe Taylor and the ACS group; Phil Johnson and Kevin O'Keefe from HR; Joyce Mitchell and the Bio-medical Infomatics group; Dave Huth and the OIT NetCom group; Kevin Taylor; Paula Millington and the Media Solution/Web group; Cory Stokes; Helen Lacy and the IMS group; Julio Facelli and the CHPC group; Chris Kidd, Steve Scott and the Security and Compliance groups; Joyce Ogburn, Joan Stoddart and the Marriot and Medical Library groups; Jim Livingston, Jim Turnbull and the ITS groups. He also thanked all the IT people here at the University of Utah for the wonderful work done behind the scenes.

President Young took questions from the Council and closed his comments by thanking the council for welcoming him and for the opportunity to attend the ITC meeting.

V: WIMBA – Cory Stokes

Information regarding a new collaboration tool was introduced. UEN has entered into a statewide agreement that will allow the University unlimited access to the new tools. Wimba Collaboration Suite interfaces with the University's WebCT course management system and the suite of services makes this a good tool to support classroom collaboration as well as many research and administrative collaboration requirements. Wimba features the following: *Wimba Classroom*: live virtual classroom supporting audio, video application sharing and content display. *Wimba Pronto*: a free instant messaging and a voice chat tool which allows students and instructors to spontaneously meet live online. *Wimba Voice*: Learn and teach with voice to promote vocal instruction, collaboration, and coaching. *Wimba Create*: the ability to easily display Word documents online. Wimba can be accessed on a simple URL. The Wimba package also includes 24 hour troubleshooting. Training options for University faculty and staff can be found on the Wimba web site. Training can also be obtained through the Marriott Library TAC Center for those who might want to use Wimba fall semester.

This is an information item. No action is required at this time.

VI: Uniform Portal – Jessica Stokes

Electronic information is delivered to students via several different "portal" delivery tools, such as my.utah.edu, campus information system and WebCT. Mindy Tueller (OIT), Jill Brinton (Media Solutions) and Jessica Stokes (ACS) have been working on a collaborative effort to unify the student's portal experience. This is expected to be an evolutionary, incremental process that will bring improvements to the student experience. Jessica demonstrated the work being done on phase one of the Student Uniform Portal. New students will logon to My.Utah.edu through the University home page (www.utah.edu) and will be guided through password and email set up. Students will be able to set up email aliases and forwarding so that they will receive official University of Utah emails. They will also be able to ensure that their email address is working properly. WebCT and CIS are also available on this site without having to login a second or third time.

This first phase is just a small step toward the unified portal for students at the University. This is a very complex process and requires detailed understanding of the different portal platforms. The team will continue its work, tackling issues related to bringing these portal experiences together. This work will also be applied to other portal projects including staff, faculty and research portals.

This is an information item. No action is required at this time.

VII: Web Content Improvement – Paula Millington

A brief update on the status of Content Management Status was given. Paula discussed the status on the following enterprise content management projects: University Home Page, Marriott Library, Brain Institute, Faculty Activity Report, Faculty Profile, Content Improvement Process and Content Management Infrastructure. A related collaboration project, UNITE, is also in production.

This is an information item. No action is required.

VIII: Instructional Computing Funds – Steve Hess

The proposals have been reviewed in some length at previous ITC meetings and due to time constraints the proposed recommendations will be put before Council member to approve without lengthy discussion.

Student Computing Advisory Committee recommendations for Instructional computing was approved.

Student Computing Advisory Committee recommendations for faculty upgrades was approved with two opposing votes.

Matching funds for Electronic Classroom installations and upgrades was approved with two opposing votes.

Steve Hess will meet with representatives from the College of Education to try to resolve concerns that resulted in opposing votes.

IX: Electronic Personnel Action Form – Phil Johnson and Kevin O’Keefe

Due to time constraints this agenda item will be reviewed at a later ITC Meeting.

X: Laptop Program – Craig Bennion

Due to time constraints this agenda item will be reviewed at a later ITC Meeting.

XI: Product Management – Kevin Taylor

Due to time constraints this agenda item will be reviewed at a later ITC Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned.