

University of Utah
Information Technology Council

February 12, 2009

THE MINUTES

Council Members in Attendance:

Cathy Anderson, Kenning Arlitsch, Andy Black, Norm Chambers, Dean Church, Clif Drew, Tim Ebner, Julio Facelli, Kay Harward, Dave Huth, Chris Kidd, Lisa Kuhn, Helen Lacy, Nancy Lombardo, Trevor Long, Paula Millington, Joyce Mitchell, Ken Nye, Kevin O'Keefe, Larry Okun, Brent Park, Rita Reusch, Steve Reynolds, Brent Schneider, Jean Shipman, Joe Taylor, Kevin Taylor, Daniel Trentman, Jeffrey West, Chuck Wight, Joanne Yaffe

Guests and Other Attendees:

Dave Adams, Craig Bennion, Paul Burrows, Steve Corbato, John Desha, Brent Elieson, Ryan Fox, Demian Hanks, Brad Ledbetter, Jennifer Logan, Jan Lovett, Eric Mantz (CEU), Pam Mollner, Brian Morris, Lannie Norton, Bryan Peterson, Caprice Post, Stephanie Richardson, Jon Ross, Holly Sebahar, Cory Stokes, Mindy Tueller, Josh Wall, Tom Weidner (CEU), Hang Wong, Judy Yeates

Excused:

Paul Brinkman, Steve Hess, Joyce Ogburn

I: Introductions and Welcome – Joyce Mitchell

II: Approval of the Minutes – December 11, 2008 Minutes – Approved

III: Audience Response Systems – Holly Sebahar

The Audience Response System (clicker) Advisory group has been working to develop a policy recommendation that will allow for effective and well-supported clicker usage at the University. In an open forum the advisory group sought input from students, faculty, administrators, bookstore representatives and solicited clicker vendor presentations. The advisory group investigated three clicker vendors and selected Turning Technology LLC (Turning Point) as the selected provider. The use of Turning Point as the single provider will provide long term benefits for students and faculty, and will minimize costs to students and the University. Training will be provided by the vendor with the assistance of the Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence (CTLE) for an effective roll out the summer of 2009. The advisory group is working with the bookstore on a buy-back policy similar to the textbook buy-back policy which could be expanded with an external exchange plan. While a single vendor is recommended faculty would be able to use a vendor of their choice. If faculty members do use the selected vendor, better training options will be available.

It is recommended that ITC approve the recommendations of the Audience Response System Advisory Group. The recommendation was approved with one abstention. A Council member requested that information regarding the Advance Response System preferred vendor and training options be given to all the Dean's offices for distribution to faculty members.

IV: Security and Privacy Strategic Plan – Chris Kidd

The University's Security and Privacy Strategic plan was developed in October of 2008 by members of the IT community and stakeholders. The plan addresses our current status, the vision, and the steps needed to move toward the vision. The plan is a rolling plan which is to be reviewed bi-annually to ensure risk is being addressed and to develop the third year's initiatives. The first year of the plan focuses on ensuring a foundation exists upon which a disciplined information security and privacy program can be built. Council members suggested several wording additions and changes to the plan, and suggested that wording indicate the plan is a University of Utah plan and that an additional section be added to address the security and privacy requirements of the hospital and clinics. The vision map will be sent to the Council members and a full copy of the plan will be sent to anyone interested by emailing Chris Kidd.

It is recommended that ITC approve the vision statements contained within the Security and Privacy plan as presented. Recommendation was approved in principle with suggested rewording changes.

V: Identity Theft "Red Flag" – Chris Kidd

The policy was first submitted as a "rule" attached to the IT Security Policy. This was done because of deadlines imposed by the Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act of 2003. The act required Board of Trustees approval. Since then it was determined that rules that are taken before the Board are, in fact, a policy. Changing the rule to a policy requires review by the appropriate stakeholders (ITC), the Faculty Senate, executive committee, the Cabinet, and others.

It is recommended that ITC approve the proposed Identity Theft – Red Flag policy. The recommendation was approved.

VI: Backbone Network Consolidation – Dave Huth and Brent Elieson

The Network Architectural Governance Committee has been working on a Backbone Network Consolidation plan; they have been researching the costs and

benefits. The plan would modify the topology of hospital and campus networks, and address equipment duplication and the risks and benefits of a coordinated network. While there are costs to folding the networks together, overall costs through the sale or redeployment of equipment would be reduced. Issues of consolidation have been discussed over time and there is confidence that we can go forward with this plan. There are some groups at the University that manage their own networks who will be able to join the consolidated network group but will not be forced to participate.

It is recommended that ITC approve the Backbone Network Consolidation Plan as presented with the understanding that IT Managers will be asked for input. The recommendation was approved.

VII: Student Email – Kevin Taylor

There is a trend by many higher education institutions to outsource email services for students. Some are using Gmail, Hotmail or other .edu email services. Surveys of our student population indicate that the majority of students rely on their personal, primary email account for the majority of their email; students also report that faculty members gather preferred email addresses in order to communicate with students. There are some costs saving to outsourcing as a long term plan.

The University has been using UMail with mixed success as the primary communication tool to contact students. Many are wondering if the University should retain UMail as the primary communication tool or outsource through Gmail or other providers? Many Council members believe UMail has a long learning curve and there are some improvements in usage and understanding the advantages of using UMail. The Council members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of a policy change at this point and would like to further investigate the options and obtain input of the students.

ITC suggested that additional research of the options be done, and that the topic be presented to the Student Commission. Council members would like the agenda item to re-addressed at a future ITC meeting.

This is a discussion item. No action is required at this time.

VIII: Campus Collaboration – Needs Assessment – Jennifer Logan and Josh Wall

Across campus there is an interest in collaboration software that could be used by both academic and administrative entities. Collaboration tools offer the

possibility of improved efficiency that is being recognized by public and private sector institutions.

Collaboration tools are being used by USTAR and Brain Institute researchers, called Unite, based on Vignette software. Microsoft Sharepoint software has also been implemented for use at the University. Collaborative services are also available from Google and OIT has implemented wikis, one component of a suite of collaboration tools.

Several colleges and departments have expressed interest in purchasing or subscribing to collaboration services or software. Interest has been expressed in a centralized solution. A group of staff and faculty has met to create a list of requirements for collaboration tools.

It is recommended that ITC formalize the campus collaboration committee and charge the committee to return to ITC with recommendations to address the need for campus collaboration services. Council members are asked to forward the names of people they would like to participate on this committee to Kevin Taylor. The recommendation was approved.

IX: Online Course Access, Strategic Perspective – Chuck Wight and Cory Stokes

Surveys and conversations with students have revealed that they would like to have one location they can see and access all their courses with online components. Students have not been aware that their different courses could be hosted by various systems. This expectation creates the impression that all courses will show up within Blackboard Vista (WebCT), which is not accurate. Through the UOnline website, Technology Assisted Curriculum Center (TACC) can provide the functionality students expect immediately by working with OIT to implement the functionality to the campus portal.

TACC recommends discontinuing using the term WebCT and any other vendor or product names when referring to online courses. TACC proposes establishing UOnline as the common name for the service that supports all web-enhanced courses. TACC recommends the immediate implementation of changes on uonline.utah.edu to list all courses with online components and would like work with ACS and departments to develop a way to gather and store URLs to courses using online services outside of TACC managed services. TACC would also like to begin visioning and planning to implement UOnline services with the campus portal to provide easy access to all courses with online components and tools that support online learning.

It is recommended that ITC approve the strategic vision for online course access as proposed. The recommendation was approved.

X: Project Updates

Workflow Committee – Jeff West
Postponed due to time constraints

Password Synchronization Project – Dave Huth
Postponed due to time constraints

Faculty Activity Report / Roll out – Paula Millington
Postponed due to time constraints

Telephone Directory Project “uWho”
Postponed due to time constraints

Secure Instant Messaging – Caprice Post
Postponed due to time constraints

Wimba for Staff – Kevin Taylor and Jessica Stokes
Postponed due to time constraints

Meeting Adjourned

The next ITC meeting will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2009, in the Dumke Conference Room of the Eccles Broadcast Center.