

Media On Demand Committee

October 3, 2008

Attending: Kevin Taylor, Paul Burrows, Nancy Lombardo, Aaron Dewald, Morgan Stewart, Helen Lacy, Juan Aldape (TACC), Paula Millington, Richard Glaser, Mindy Tueller, Dave Packham, CarolJean Hanson, Dave Adams, Stan Clawson

Meeting schedule for the MOD Comm: 2nd Thursday of each month, 2 pm (Next mtg: Nov. 13th)

Agenda:

4. New MoD staff position

Dave Adams' responsibilities (salary money comes from ITS Web Resources and Chuck Wight)

[See Dave's slides.](#) Duties will include Distribution Infrastructure (in addition to OIT Systems, NOC, Architecture) and Support (community, expertise, consulting). See the 4th bullet below for the Chuck Wight/TACC need. Dave sees the streaming service as something that can serve all areas of campus: departments/users can pick and choose from a tiered-suite of services. They include Content Publishing Contexts (WebCT, OLMS, Vignette, HUMIS, Cascade, other CMSs, CONTENTdm, HTML, ...) and Asset Management & Delivery Systems (iTunesU, UEN eMedia/Equelia, Clip-imp, Joe, media.scl, Raw). Dave Packham sees the position as being largely focused on development with as much of the operations as possible handed off to OIT Systems and NOC. We want to institutionalize the service and infrastructure to be sustainable and reliable long term. Plus, a big piece of his job will be support and consultation services. Dave will document best practices for the central streaming resource.

Nancy: how can Dave help Eccles Library? What about helping them with the systems they maintain? More support will be available for entities that follow the best practices closely. Specific to enabling the storage and delivery of media that falls into the central streaming best practices, yes, Dave will help.

Dave is obligated to do a new release of Clip-Imp as per his contract with the Marriott Library. It's open source. It will NOT be sold.

Server-side transcoding – a project down the road for prioritization. Dave wants to check out a lot of available commercial products.

Dave wants to avoid quotas until self-serve uploads for students cause problems. Storage is cheap for this kind of service. Retention – if the service provider (e.g., Marriott Lib, Dept of Communication) wants to keep it forever or blow it away after 3 years, that's up to them.

Paul summarizes this service as 'Integration brokerage', which is basically a fancy way to say that many different Publishing Contexts and organization on campus can get personalized tie-ins to this service.

What Dave knows about Chuck Wight as of fall 2008:

- TACC salaries are now paid through Undergraduate Studies
- Chuck is stepping up higher in overseeing TACC and AOCE operations
- Chuck wants to move more towards a service model where tech support for streaming will be done by UEN or OIT (centralized); TACC becomes the training shop. (think Wimba, Blackboard-WebCT). Chuck wants something similar for streaming.
- Dave built something for TACC 4 years ago that needs to be replaced for a campus streaming infrastructure; to make it redundant through OIT is the wish. It will include management and server pieces.
- IMS is currently the majority user of the (legacy) TACC system, plus AOCE, Humanities, TACC, and others use the (old) server; a different sub-set uses the management system.

Questions:

Richard G: Wimba seems to be less full-featured on roll out than expected. Will the same happen with streaming video? Kevin answer: we're working on Wimba to make it better. We're administering it on an ad-hoc basis right now, trying to figure out how to more effectively manage it through provisioning (getting it authenticated through uNID and password - auto provisioning only happens through WebCT). Wimba will not only be used for classroom.

Richard: will it be easy to work with iTunesU, YouTube, etc.? See Dave's slide – yes.

Richard: will end users be able to upload directory? Dave a: we could NFS-mount to everyone's home.utah.edu directory and allow uploads. Or, we could allow people to login into a web interface and upload through it with transcoding in the background. Paul: there would still need to be a manual way for some files to be transcoded (HD 16x9 ratios – example).

Richard: what about letting students upload directly? Dave Adams: the sky's the limit once the infrastructure is in place. That decision will need to be made by the MOD committee.

Richard: will there be granularity for delivery based on role, department, etc.? Dave Adams: we're working to use authentication to enable this. Will be working with Seth and Chad in OIT to do this with AD after it works on Mac and Unix platforms.

7. LIFT Forum: Stan Clawson will be the new liaison for MOD Comm. They meet every 2nd Wednesday from 12 – 1 pm in the HSEB. Jeanne LeBer facilitates it. Give them topics!! Next meeting (next week) is Wimba.

8. The MoD sub-group that asked for money should take their budget issues back to ITC at the December meeting. Sub-group members: Marriott Library, Eccles Library, IMS, TACC, Law?