Course Management System (CMS) Platform -
- The Online Education Faculty Advisory Committee has completed their analysis of the Blackboard and WebCT products. Donna LaLonde, who served on the advisory group, said most of the committee members felt people would be more comfortable with the gradual conversion to WebCT6 rather than an abrupt change to Blackboard and thought two small conversions would be better than one large one.
- The University will need to convert to Blackboard or WebCT6 by Fall 2007 since WebCT4 will no longer be supported. The conversion will need to take place during the spring and summer of 2007.
- Two decisions need to be made: 1) which system to migrate to, and 2) how should the conversion be done.
- Discussion on how the conversion will happen raised these questions:
  - How much technology does the faculty need to do the job?
  - Can a consultant be used to move the info or should the expertise of the web techs be developed?
  - Since a lot of the conversion consists of clerical work could a student do much of the work?
  - A decision will need to be made soon so the techs can get to training. Substantial resources will be needed for training.
  - Mike will see about getting a budget estimate for the conversion.

Technology for Stoffer Renovation -
- Mike said they are getting pressure from the Stoffer faculty for wireless access for the building. He indicated the technology for wireless access is changing so fast it practically becomes obsolete every six months or so. Since the completion of Stoffer is two years down the road, he suggests we put off as long as possible any decisions on wireless access.

Off-Campus Access to On-Campus Resources -
- The University currently offers remote access resources through individual servers where programs on the servers are executed on campus but viewed remotely. The majority are NT servers that are out of warranty and no longer supported. We do not have the appropriate number and type of software licenses for these servers. Mike distributed a fact sheet showing the options available and the decisions that need to be made regarding this off-campus access.
- Decisions that need to be made:
  - How will we provide off-campus access and to whom?
  - What access method should be used - application server or VPN?
  - How will the software be funded?
- David asked if we should consider a mix of solutions rather than one-size fits all.
- VPN would be nice for faculty and students but is not necessary for the administrative side.
- It was agreed we should scale back on the number of servers.
• Mike said he would like to avoid getting students on the application servers.

Scanner Replacement -
• The current bubble form scanner, which is used for test scoring and teacher evaluations, will need to be replaced this year. It is old and inefficient.
• Mike proposed replacing it with two machines to split up the function.
• Approved by committee.

Purpose and Responsibilities of Committee -
• A document detailing the purpose, membership, and function of the Technology Steering Committee was sent with the agenda.
• The description was approved as distributed and will be included in the faculty handbook.