Technology Steering Committee

October 24, 2007

Members Present: Bob Boncella, Robin Bowen, Al Dickes, Tom Ellis, Wanda Hill, Don Kellogg, Anne Liebst, Juli Mazachek, David Monical

Everyone introduced themselves. New members, Anne Liebst and Don Kellogg, were welcomed to the group.

Around the campus in 60 seconds -

- RFP for campus wireless solution failed due to very high bids from the formal RFP. Campus wireless will need to be done in stages, starting with the School of Nursing and the residence halls.
- Office 2007 rollout has been completed. Mike said the Regent’s schools that have not yet converted are having all kinds of problems with the new file formats.
- UPS can now shutdown servers in Bennett.
- Student email storage capacity has been increased to 1000 MB for Law students and 100 MB for other students. Robin asked about the difference. Mike said the Law School is the only area that has asked for more capacity. He said the 100 MB is five times more capacity than most schools offer.
- RFP for storage system is nearing release. This will allow an increase in campus general disk storage by four times.
- Two new AVID editing systems were installed for Media Services. We now have automation for WUCT-13, so no one has to be there pushing buttons. We also have an enhanced TV studio for Mass Media productions including the installation of a clock, which was set up to cut over to regular programming. It is now as close as we can make it to regular TV.

HiPACE Now On-line -

- Mike distributed a diagram of the HiPACE System Schematic. The Gateway computer makes it so network data cannot be moved back and forth between the HiPACE system and the campus network. The configuration will allow users of the HiPACE complex to perform any computing activity without affecting the rest of the campus.

SPSS Access –

- We currently have sixteen licenses at $3,000 per license. Maintenance is 10% per year. Access is available on or off campus, and will be controlled by reservations made through the VPAA Office. We may need to purchase additional licenses in the future but it seems to be working for now.

Generator Project -

- Mike distributed copies of meeting notes.
• A power backup solution is being designed to power Bennett Hall, the phone system, and the Washburn Police in the event of a power failure. Currently we can only keep Bennett going up to 45 minutes without a generator.
• Robin noted there are areas of Stoffer Hall that require a stable temperature.
• Tom indicated the University losing power for an extended period of time is unlikely since most of Washburn is on a loop connected to two substations. Mike will confirm with Facilities if Stoffer has power feeds from two grids such that back-up power to Stoffer is already in place.
• One generator, fueled by diesel, will be installed behind Bennett to supply power to the Police, the phone system, and to Bennett. The tank will be large enough to run the generator for 72 hours.

Public Website Redesign -
• David said Sue and Eileen have done a survey on what people want on the web page. They are checking the market for contents management assistance. Tom said we should have a systematic message to ask departments to keep their websites updated.
• David said there have been discussions with CAS about doing three or four templates for the departments to choose from. The Washburn website needs to emphasize programs rather than departments. Robin added we need to have some consistency in faculty and department websites. Students want to find information about the program they are interested in, not what academic unit it is in.

Baseline modifications of Banner –
• We are still required to report ethnicity to the federal government; however, students aren’t required to provide the information. There is a generic survey instrument in Banner; however, altering it requires a code change.
• Currently the only modification in Banner is for email names. The overhead is tremendous for Banner upgrades with modifications.
• Discussion will be tabled until the next meeting.

Project prioritization process –
• Mike distributed a document explaining the process ISS uses for prioritizing programming projects. They try to use a first in first out approach. A project is considered viable if it is sponsored by an employee at the director level or above. Small projects are done as fill-ins as time permits.
• Mike will bring project reports to future committee meetings. David suggested separating the proposed implementation date from the due date to allow for testing prior to implementation.

Runner Technologies CLEAN_Address product –
• A proposal from Runner Technologies, Inc. was distributed. It is marketed as a magic bullet to clean up addresses in Banner. The clean up can be done in batch mode for addresses already in the system. The yearly subscription is $4,100 and it will require another server. Other institutions have given positive feedback. We will test the system using the free trial software.