Technology Steering Committee
December 15, 2008

Members Present: Alan Bearman, Bob Boncella, Robin Bowen, Tom Ellis, Michael Gunter, Wanda Hill, Don Kellogg, Donna LaLonde, Juli Mazachek, Denise Ottinger, Gary Schmidt

The Committee welcomes Gary Schmidt from the Faculty IT Advisory Committee. Tim Peterson is joining us today to discuss the “Learning Management System” selection update.

Around the Campus in 60 Seconds
- We have been working with USD501 as part of the Kaw merger. We will be exchanging facilities use in disaster recovery. We will have our backup web server in place at Kaw soon. When operational, if Washburn were to lose all connectivity we would still be able to communicate using the web.
- On November 21st the ACCSP2 was shutdown as scheduled.
- Network switches which are located in ceilings of Morgan are being moved. The network switch in ceiling of Math Department was moved this month.
- We have wired three more network sockets in Mabee Library and installed six more computers for Alan Bearman this week.
- Last week we had a Denial of Service (DoS) attack on our wireless network and had to shut off access from the offending external sites.
- Susie Pryor received a grant for Snap Survey software and the installation has been scheduled. A curious “feature” of the system is users must have read/write access to the license manager – which is just a network share. If someone were to inadvertently change any of the files, access would break for all users. ISS has created a security profile so only people Susie Pryor approves will have access to use the survey software – though the licensing provides any faculty, staff, or student use.

Banner Enrollment Management Implementation (Tom Ellis)
- SunGard had consultants visit this past week to gain a better understanding of our organization before installing and configuring the software.
- We expect a fair amount of staff training to use the new Enrollment Management Suite.
- We will start the test installation on January 5th.
- As we move forward, SunGard will be targeting the installation to match our specific strengths and weaknesses.
- Last week was more of a summary of what we’re doing now, what plans we have, how it is working, etc.
- This week we will have technical people from SunGard looking at our systems and functional people will receive training.
- We will be turning one of the communication plans that we are using right now into a campaign in the new system.
- The Enrollment Management system is to communicate effectively with students and give us some data on what’s working. For instance, out of the 70,000 inquires sent out, how many of those will respond back and show interest or enroll here at Washburn University.
Kaw Area Technical School Network Integration

- We have been working with Kaw and getting patches put on their machines and antivirus up running on all computers so we can join the two networks together.
- Problems with network switches last week have been fixed.

Current Projects

- Mike distributed the Current Projects list and explained that first page is the requested projects which are not yet ready for development. Second page is defined projects that can be actively worked on.
- Donna LaLonde mentioned that “TE Declarations/Completions into Banner” needs to be modified. Donna will work with Bill Bunten on the modifications.
- Robin Bowen asked about how items are prioritized. Mike explained that when we have a defined request which we can work on, the “project” in put into our queue and it gets worked on the order it goes in. Projects are usually worked on in date order unless prioritized differently by a vice president.
- Robin asked Donna about “KAW Student Data Conversion” and “KAW-Financial Aid Module” projects. Donna replied by saying that Kaw Financial Aid module won’t be a project since we are not doing financial aid at Kaw using Banner – at least at present. On the Kaw Data Conversion, we have to make sure we involve Kaw and will need to engage a SunGard consultant to do the actual conversion. Mike will be speaking with Joe Emmons from Kaw.

Website Redesign Timeline and Implementation

- We have 234 pages in the system so far and 43 converted pages left. University Relations is building new pages of which we have 35 so far.
- What is meant by pages completed? This is where we take content off old website, University Relations makes format changes, and then provided to the ISS webmaster who puts the content into the XML template.
- University Relations and Information Systems and Services are both working on conversion and eventually departments will have access to make changes without going through the webmaster.
- We are on schedule and still looking at a January 20th date for completion.

LMS Selection Update (Tim Peterson)

- Tim provided out two handouts: 1st page on “Learning Management System (LMS) Evaluation Summary” and 2nd page list of “Pros and Cons” between Angel and Moodle.
- Stuart Murphy is our current, Online Education Coordinator, and is a resource for the LMS sub-committee.

Current Operations:

- We are experiencing good revenue growth in online courses.
- Last year we did about 20,000 student credit hours and last summer we doubled student credit hours online.
- WebCT has been our current system since 1999.

LMS Evaluation Process:

- We did create, at Robin’s request last summer, a broader online education committee to build a strategic plan for online education.
- We adopted a recommended vision statement for online education.
Two priorities to look at: future potential student markets and ways to improve student and faculty support, including training.

Mike asked the Committee to recommend a replacement for WebCT since blackboard had announced a sunset date for WebCT.

After checking with Western Cooperative for Educational Telecommunications CMS site, out of 2 dozen systems we narrowed the search down to: Blackboard, Angel, eCollege, and Moodle. After receiving responses to questions, demos, sandboxes, and reference checks, the sub-committee narrowed down the choices to Angel and Moodle.

Questions Asked:

- Gary Schmidt – How difficult would it be to convert from the Angel system to the Moodle system?
- Wanda Hill – (Moddle will require some significant Instructional Design to setup the system.) Will this be permanent or temporary? Tim says this will be temporary. Tom Ellis asked if this could be contracted out.
- Robin Bowen – Wanted to know the time frame for the selection of the LMS and the selection process. ISS will take the two candidate systems and perform a technical evaluation, meet with the LMS sub-committee, and from that meeting we will present a joint recommendation to the Technology Steering Committee. We will vote on a new LMS at next meeting, Monday, January 12th, 2009.

Wireless Access Points

- We bought new wireless access points for Stoffer Hall, LLC, Kuehne Hall, West Hall, and Washburn Village this past year. Since a new wireless standard was pending, ISS wrote language into the contract requiring a free upgrade to the new standard when available. The upgrades are now available and came in the form of new hardware. We asked, and the vendor has agreed to assign the old 802.11b/g hardware to Washburn at no cost. The APs have no warranty, but will work with all current wireless clients. ISS is recommending that we deploy these access points across the University. They should be serviceable for at least 3-4 years.
- ISS has had requests for access points from: Harold Rood (would like wireless in Garvey), Eugene Williams (KTWU), and Alan Bearman (who has only one access point in Mabee Library).
- To prioritize areas for additional wireless coverage, Wanda Hill suggests each department put in their request and the Committee will decide where wireless needs to go and submit one total cost estimate.
- The Committee agreed to have ISS install access points in Mabee Library immediately.
- Mike will present at January 12th meeting a map of where the current wireless access points are located.