Information Technology Advisory Council (ITAC)

MEETING MINUTES
Meeting held at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, November 9, 2006 in EPC 304C

Members in attendance: David Anderson, Daniel Szarkowski, Jackie Crouch, Jan Kemper, Julie Wheeler, Leslie Manning, Nina Frischmann, Peggy Beranek, Sue Byerley, Yvonne Bogard

OLD BUSINESS
1. **Web Content Update update**
   a. Kirk Moore was not in attendance; perhaps he will update us next month.
2. **Pay-Per-Page update**
   a. Jerry Wilson was not in attendance, but Sue passed along from his visit to the Faculty Assembly that the issue of the quantity of printing required by courses in the Writing Program is still of some concern.
   b. Jackie requested that IT provide specs as soon as possible on the printers that labs need to purchase if they wish to be supported in the PPP system. **Post-meeting addendum:** When I met with Jerry the following Tuesday, he explained that IT will actually do the purchasing of printers and charge the lab accounts accordingly.
   c. **Additional post-meeting addendum:** Jerry also indicated that implementation of the PPP system will probably again be delayed until summer.
3. **SIS update**
   a. Jan informed us that vendors are being evaluated; that the system will be Oracle-based; that the field has been narrowed to two products: PeopleSoft and Banner; and that vendor demos will happen over the next few weeks. The demos are open to all, and attendees can vote if they attend both demos. She will forward the details to us.
   b. Leslie noted that the Colorado community college system is having problems with Banner.
4. **Student Portal update**
   a. Kirk Moore was not in attendance; perhaps he will update us next month.

NEW BUSINESS
1. **IT public labs hardware/software upgrade**
   a. There was a good deal of discussion about potential hardware and software compatibility issues with Vista; older computers needing hardware upgrades; a radically different Office interface, and IE7 compatibility. While Jerry was not in attendance to brief us on this, Dave explained that in the last IT staff meeting he was assured that they would do everything possible to make this as smooth a transition as possible. We've made it through other operating system upgrades in the past; this shouldn't be any worse.

b. **Post-meeting addendum:** When I met with Jerry the following Tuesday, he explained that because IT wants Vista on *all* computers on campus for security reasons, it will work to bring all office computers up to spec on hardware as it goes through its open lab hardware upgrade in December.

2. **How to decide what software to put on public lab computers**
   a. There was some discussion on this, but it turns out that I misinterpreted what Jerry wanted me to bring to the committee. We will take this up again at the next meeting.

3. **Course Management System selection**
   a. Yvonne expressed concern about eCollege, since the College of Education is so heavily invested in it. Jackie explained that eCourse—the fully outsourced CMS—would remain, but that eCompanion—supported in-house—is an issue.
   b. Leslie noted that the use of eCompanion is growing on campus.
   c. Julie indicated that English and the Writing Program use eCompanion in addition to CyberClass, and that they could conceivably move away from CyberClass if whatever replaces it has a "faculty threaded discussion" feature. Jackie volunteered to work with her on that.
   d. Nina said that while the TLC offers training workshops for eCompanion, hardly anyone comes to them. Jackie volunteered to work with her on promoting that for instructors who need to learn how to use it.
   e. Dave explained that Chemistry has built its entire curriculum around calculated questions, and that any system we consider has to have that feature (currently available only in WebCT). Jackie indicated that eCollege has not been very responsive to feature requests, but that we should continue to press for this.
   f. Leslie and Dan inquired about mechanisms to compare features among the various CMSs. Jackie and Dave said they would look into it.
   g. Dave said he would talk to the math people about their needs for their Math Online courses.

4. **Other**
   a. Yvonne inquired about the possibility of an online FCQ. While there were a few comments offered, we will bring this up again at our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next ITAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 14, 2006 at 9:30 a.m., in EPC 304C

Please report any corrections or omissions to David Anderson at danderso@uccs.edu.