

# Information Technology Advisory Council (ITAC)

## MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, February 12, 2009 in EPC 304C

Members in attendance: David Anderson (Chair), Tabatha Becker, Yvonne Bogard, Cindy Brown, Jackie Crouch, Jan Kemper, Kirk Moore, Jerry Phillips, Michael Reyes, Sharon Stevens, Jerry Wilson

### OLD BUSINESS

#### 1. IT Updates

Jerry reported that:

- a. The **iTunes U** site is close to being ready. Donovan Thorpe has worked out some security issues and Craig Decker is putting the final touches on the design. Its opening will be announced soon, and help sheets for its use will be made available.
- b. From the fall numbers it appears that cost estimates for **Paw Prints** were pretty close. IT estimated it would expend \$70-80K for the year; it took in \$30K in the fall, so with spring and summer semesters it should be close to meeting its goal. Printing appears to be down around 40-50% across the board, with faculty printing in labs dropping to near zero.

Kirk reported that:

- c. As noted previously, Serena is no longer upgrading its **Collage** web content management system, and authoring in that system no longer works in the latest versions of popular browsers. (To add icing to the cake, we are frequently maxing out our thirteen licenses, and they want an additional \$5K per license—for a product they're not supporting!) Web Services is evaluating several other systems, hoping to have a decision soon. Funding continues to be an issue; even the "cheapest" ones are \$50-60K.

#### 2. LMS Selection

David and Jerry relayed to the council that the Leadership Team unanimously encourages moving to a single learning management system for the campus—and supports Blackboard—but as yet has not offered any financial support, asking IT to come up with the funds. Blackboard representatives will give a presentation to Leadership on Monday; we're hoping the team will be so impressed by the things it will do for the campus outside of course management that they will find some support for it. At least things are moving forward, if only at a snail's pace.

#### 3. Lecture Capture System

David reiterated an earlier message that the Dean's Council has turned down our request for support for lecture capture systems. This is disappointing in light of our establishment of a site on iTunes U. There are, though, a few people on campus with the ability to create podcasts (and programs like Camtasia will work

for this as well), so perhaps as interest grows in producing works for podcasting (and as the economy improves), such support will be forthcoming.

#### **4. eCompanion 24/7 Support**

David likewise noted that the Dean's Council decided not to fund eCollege's 24/7 support for eCompanion. Jerry explained that they did not feel it was an issue, that they haven't heard complaints, and that they would like to see some data. Jackie exclaimed that she could "snow" us with emails she has received from users, and Sharon described how she spends all day—every day—for the first two or three weeks of the semester dealing with end-user help. They will both compile data for us.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Stimulus for Online Course Development**

Sharon presented the council with a detailed list of suggestions for stimulating online course development, along with a grant program for course development supported by the TLC, recent successes in online course development on campus, and general information on instructional technology and e-learning. Such things as stipends and offloads; technical and instructional design support; training and workshops; and some sort of reward system would provide incentives for online course development, but like everything else, would also require additional funding.

David volunteered to ask the Provost about establishing a campus award for online course development.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next ITAC meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2009, in EPC 304C.

Please report any corrections or omissions to David Anderson at [danderso@uccs.edu](mailto:danderso@uccs.edu).