

Communications Technology Advisory Group (CTAG)

10:00 a.m., SSB 314

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Present: Dustin Brown, Steve Coan, Ken Fansler, Scott Genung, Tom Heintzman, Krena Hoyt, Stefanie McAllister, Steve Menken, Dudley Roach, Brent Simonds, Pam Burress

Absent: Scott Christner, John Foster, Terry Foster, Patrick Tower

CELLULAR POLICY PROCEDURES

- ✓ **CHANGES SINCE LAST REVIEW:** Scott announced that in working with the Comptroller's Office and the Internal Auditors on the draft document for cellular policy procedures, they have made a drastic modification in the reimbursement process. Instead of a business reimbursement, which entailed figuring up how much of a personal cell phone was used for business, they are now leaning towards a stipend-based plan. Although the business reimbursement plan would have allowed for a check cut to the individual, the stipend-based plan will be included in an employee's paycheck (with all the taxes, etc. taken out).
- ✓ **STIPEND VS BUSINESS REIMBURSEMENT:** At the next meeting, Scott hopes to have a new draft prepared of the cellular procedures document. They are drafting 5 stipend levels of payment and continue negotiating with the Comptroller's Office:
 1. Very limited voice service, \$15 per month
 2. Enhanced voice service (more use than limited), \$30 per month
 3. Voice and data services, \$40 per month
 4. Voice, data, and text services, \$65 per month
 5. Voice, data, text, etc. enhanced services, \$90 per month

CONFERENCING

- ✓ **VIDEO:** Scott relayed that Doug Smith of CTSS (along with Telecom) has been working to support the distance education projects on campus. CTSS is now looking at available solutions for video, audio, and a combination of the 2 for conferencing, and will be presenting a proposal soon.
- ✓ **WEB:** Scott explained that a web conferencing (ie: WebX) solution for campus may be needed and that a subcommittee had been formed to outline if it was a need and what solutions could be available.

WIRELESS

- ✓ **SPONSORED WIRELESS:** Steve announced that the sponsored wireless initiative was being reviewed as a possible future replacement for guest wireless access. Telecom is targeting January 2008 to roll out sponsored wireless, but will not immediately remove guest wireless (based on the impact it could have on heavy users such as Athletics in the middle of a school year). Additional time may be necessary to determine terms of use, training of the new process, and a timeline for guest access to phase out.
- ✓ **WIRELESS EXTENSION TO RESIDENCE HALLS:** Scott explained that it would be soon possible to extend wireless to residence halls. Already, some of the halls renovation projects have allowed wiring to be placed for future installation of wireless access points (WAPs). Targeting 2008 for residence hall roll out.
- ✓ **802.11n:** With the introduction of 802.11n for wireless connectivity, Scott shared that it offers new possibilities for the wireless connections in the dorms. 802.11n promises increased capacity and through-put per WAP, however, the price tag is significantly greater. There is a possibility that by September 2008 it could be rolled out to housing as the 1st installation of this version.

Communications Technology Advisory Group (CTAG)

10:00 a.m., SSB 314

Thursday, November 8, 2007

INTERNET CAPACITY

- ✓ **IMPACT OF NEW CIRCUIT FROM COGENT:** With the new internet connection from Cogent offering a capacity of 1Gb/s, it has changed our wide-area network model on campus. With the previous configuration, the 2 Internet providers had equal bandwidth, allowing for easy load balancing. Now, since bandwidth is no longer equal, it has presented a challenge which was solved by balancing based on percentage allowed versus the previous shaping of the data. Telecom gladly states that we are now nowhere near capacity as before.
- ✓ **FUTURE POSSIBILITIES:** Stats by the end of the spring semester will shed light on how to make adjustments in the balancing if necessary. FYI, web conferencing is classed in the gold level of service preference, and therefore will get preferential network capacity.

10G

- ✓ **BACKBONE:** Blades installed in Telecom switches around campus are being changed out to higher throughput. However, since most are not utilizing 10G on the server-side, no one will notice until technology catches up.
- ✓ **DATACENTERS:** Datacenters scaling backplane is costly. Targeting spring 2008 for transition timeline. While, wide-area connectivity may be available near spring 2009.

ACCESS OF CAMPUS RESOURCES BY NON-ISU

- ✓ Steve shared that audit findings are continually asking what the University is doing to control access to the network. There seems to be a need to share on campus resources with off campus researchers for collaboration on research projects. For example, COE is setting up DLIDs, but faculty must request these be setup through their technical personnel, and therefore, some faculty researchers are simply installing apps and data on their personal workstations and sharing folders for others in their collaborative research group.
- ✓ Telecom is asking what is the need for a solution, and what possibilities for solutions are there? WebCT was suggested as a possible solution.

NEXT MEETING DATES

- ✓ Thursday, December 6, 2007, 10:00am, SSB 314