

Campus Technology Policy & Planning Council
February 20, 2006
1:00 – 2:30 pm
DeGarmo 551

Present: Beckie Benner, Sara Campbell, Dan Hayden, Trish Klass, Jim Moon, Brent Paterson, Galen Crow for Bob Rariden, Beth Schobernd, Mark Walbert, Jeff Wood, and Shari Zeck

Absent: Sam Catanzaro

Mark welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mark announced that he has met with four of the five working groups to develop a list of Action Items related the IT Goals for the Strategic Plan. All of the groups have received some reading material. Two of the groups identified a need for an additional goal which will have both short and long term items on it.

Goal 6: Provide outstanding technologies in support of client needs.

Action Items under this Goal would include provision of campus-wide wireless network access, increasing the number of technology-classrooms, and so on. Technologies that faculty, staff, and students indicated to the Council were important to their teaching and learning, research and creative activities, public service, and administration of the university.

Mark explained that today's agenda item was to talk about shared personal calendaring and the future of Microsoft Exchange as an backend provider of email and calendaring. As requested at the last Council meeting, Mark reported to the committee members on how many Meeting Maker licenses are in use on campus. (He will send out that spreadsheet to Council members this week.) Dan also had a handout on the same subject that he gave out to the group and they then discussed the numbers. Dan mentioned that he created the list to determine who would be affected the most by the selection of a new shared personal calendar. The committee members then discussed both the *SUN* and the *OUTLOOK* systems. Some of the things that the committee discussed were:

- The main issue is that we now have two ways of doing calendaring and we need to get it down to one with minimal costs.
- We want to have 6 months of training on which serve system we decide upon.
- The mail comes to the Sun server now and then to the Exchange servers for those of us who use Exchange. The group talked about the value of the mail going through two servers.
- Losing integration between the calendaring and the e-mail is something that Student Affairs would not like to lose.
- The syncing with PDA's between MM and Exchange does not work well.
- Shared folders are also beneficial.
- Advancement is now looking at purchasing a donor database program that works well with Outlook.
- It is about coordination and fixing the centralized system. This is why some of the areas went to their own systems – to sidestep policies.

- We need a structure that is designed to be done in a decentralized manner.
- We need to find a balance between providing services completely centralized and completely decentralized..
- Philosophically, this is about different technologies and what they can do and how we decide who makes the decisions. Who is going to manage this environment? How it is going to be managed and enforced?
- It is easier to restore someone's mailbox using Exchange. This is a request that the tech people receive from time to time.
- What if we keep Sun and also keep Exchange for email and anyone who needs to use a calendar has to go to Exchange?

The committee discussed different scenarios for *Exchange* versus *Sun*. Students would not be on the calendaring system if we used *Exchange*.

Mark asked if the group had other questions and there were none. He added that though we would save \$25,000 by eliminating Meeting Maker we will need to spend more than that if we go with Exchange for email and calendaring. This means the Council must be ready to defend the increase in spending to the VPs. There are also some organizational implications with "legitimizing" use of Exchange.

Mark will talk to Eric Hodges about giving a presentation next week on the recommendations of the Exchange Consolidation Working Group. After that, it will be time for the Council to make a decision and a recommendation to the Vice Presidents regarding a new shared personal calendar and the costs of that recommendation.

Announcements:

Galen Crow:

Bob Rariden is doing well and should be back soon.

Kate Plantholt fell and will be having some surgery for her shoulder.

Sara Campbell:

Mennonite is in the process of moving servers and tech staff into a bigger, better designed space.

Beth Schobernd:

Milner is revising their technology plan. The online catalogue will be down for 2 weeks. If reserving anything for summer school, please get it in early.

Beckie Benner:

University Advancement is looking into using a new software program (Agilon's, *One*). They will be changing from ADIN to One during the next 6-9 months and go live in the fall with the new program. It has a web front end and much greater functionality. End users will be able to do queries. If anyone is interested in having access to the new software program, contact Beckie.

Jim Moon:

College of Education is having a few problems regarding communications between servers and they fear it may be a hardware problem.

Brent Paterson:

Student Affairs has consolidated some computing and is working on a financial plan for funding from four different sources.

Dan Hayden:

AIS has just installed a new IBM mainframe. Two processors have been turned on but four are available. They are still running the old version of the OS but are migrating towards the new system.

AIS has been working with several companies on an IBM Scholars program, which is an initiative from IBM to develop new mainframe programmers. Several large companies are interested and in the development of the new educational path to develop a curriculum (Enterprise Systems Training). This initiative is receiving a lot of attention now during the development stages.

There was an audit finding from the state auditors regarding reporting time and attendance for faculty and staff. AIS is looking at a way to address that audit finding. There may be an automated system on line instead of the paper forms that we now fill out. They are now putting together a committee to do an analysis of the payroll system to see what we need to replace it with.

Shari Zeck:

ORAT has hired a new employee, putting them at full staff for the first time in a very long time.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting

February 27, 2006

DeGarmo 551

1:00 – 2:30 pm

Submitted by Georgia Bailey.