

Campus Technology Policy & Planning Council
August 30, 2004
11 am - noon
Hovey 209

Present: Becky Benner, Sara Campbell, Sam Catanzaro, Galen Crow, Dan Hayden, Edgar Norton, Barbara Nourie, Brent Paterson, Beth Schobernd, Mark Walbert, Jeff Wood, and Shari Zeck.

Guests: Dianne Ashby, Steve Bragg, Susan Kern, Helen Mamarchev, Gary Olson, John Presley.

Mark Walbert opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming to the first Council meeting. He then introduced the agenda for today:

- The VP's are here to give the committee the official charge.
- Opening remarks by Mark Walbert
- Introduction of Council members
- Discussion of Council members roles as chairs of constituent advisory committees
- Some future agenda items.

He thanked Vice Presidents for being here and turned to Dr. Presley for his opening remarks. Dr. Presley welcomed everyone and asked if everyone had a copy of the letter given to Mark Walbert regarding the charge to the committee. He explained that this charge has been discussed at President's Cabinet and at VP meetings. The administration would like an inclusive technology decision-making structure for all divisions on campus. They have hopes that this structure will make overarching recommendations to the Vice Presidents for their approval and especially consider policy, planning, and outcomes, while considering funding sources and tactical directions. He explained that this Council has been formed partly since we have had consultants advice saying we need a decision making body on campus. Steve Bragg agreed with Dr. Presley's comments and added that he likes the term federation for this group since the VP's will be looking for guidance from the Council. Susan Kern added that she likes the overlapping and inclusive nature of the new structure of the Council and indicated that even though we have done wonderfully with technology on campus in each of areas that many resources have been wasted and collaboration is needed now. She asked the group to consider discussions about the processes of the university and what we want to accomplish university-wide using technology as a tool. She added a statement about how anxious she is to see the rest of the missions and principals and will look forward to hearing about ways in which to accomplish what we need to accomplish as an institution. Helen Mamarchev agreed with past statements but wanted to add that everything is not always solved by more people or more money. We need to take a strong look at analyzing the situation. Long range housing and dining plans will be involving more technology. Mark thanked the Vice Presidents for coming and delivering the charge to the Council.

Mark gave welcoming remarks.

Chair's Opening Remarks to the Campus Technology Policy and Planning Council

30 August, 2004

Welcome! I am pleased to see you all here today on what is truly an historic occasion. OK, perhaps not the most exciting of historic occasions on campus. But for a university that is struggling between the Scylla of rising costs of essential technology services and the Charybdis of falling budgets, today's meeting is truly important. For the charge just given to this body by the President and Vice Presidents represents their desire to see that a well defined organizational relationship be established among "overall technology leadership, technology decision making, technology planning, and technology service".

Why is this needed? A big part of higher education's culture is the belief in the inherent wisdom of distributed authority, systems, operations, and efforts. For technology, this is proving to be costly. "This cultural belief fosters an email server, a file server, a Web developer, a security administrator, etc., in every major or minor academic or administrative subunit of the institution." In fact, technology services on campus are currently delivered in a manner that has been characterized as "loosely coupled anarchy".

The Council is a step in the direction of addressing these issues. It offers a well-defined organizational relationship among campus technology leadership, decision makers with responsibility for technology planning and spending in their area, the distributed tech staff supporting these plans, and, most importantly, the "end-user" of these technology services. In fact, it is the first time that so many people across campus will have the opportunity to take part in the writing of policies and plans for the technology that has such an important affect on their ability to do their job.

The vision that is illustrated by the lines on the org chart before you is one of open communication designed, with all eyes fixed on a set of agreed-upon principles, to

- raise the level of understanding and awareness of technology issues on campus,
- elicit feedback from all campus constituents,
- develop, promote, and enforce campus-wide technology policies and procedures,
- organize a truly campus-wide technology planning process,
- share information on technology issues that affect individual constituencies, and to
- enable a process whereby important technology services can be provided without unnecessary expenditures.

There is much that we have to accomplish this year, and some of it will get quite esoteric. But I am confident that, working together, we will be able to make a difference.

Thanks!

Introductions were done around the table. Mark explained that all constituent and technical advisory committees should be concerned with the security and finance issues relating to proposals they review. There is a closed listserv set up (TECHCOUNCIL-L@listserv.ilstu.edu). Mark will send everyone an e-mail on it later this week. Georgia will send everyone a copy of the Campus Technology Guiding Principles. Handouts at today's meeting included:

- The charge letter from the President's Cabinet.
- The Council's organizational chart.
- Detailed description of the structure of the Council.
- Future meeting times and locations.
- An article from news.com and an article from Educause Review.

Some future working tasks include:

- A proposal to enhance the security of ISUNet. It is anticipated that the first part of the next three meetings will be used to address this proposal. A consultant will be here for the first meeting to increase awareness of the nature of the threats to computers and the network and then will give us feedback on the proposal later.
- Guidelines need to be set up for the guiding principals.
- Looking at the current IT policies & procedures.
- Setting up a campus wide strategic plan.
- Developing a funding model for campus technology.
- Developing a procedure on procedures.

Mark asked for comments and questions. Dr Presley offered that once the Council has talked about all these things, it would be fabulous to discover we are able to do these things. He added that technology can become very complicated.

Shari Zeck suggested including someone from TSAC on this Council. The group agreed Mark added that this group does nothing to diminish the subgroups or subcommittees that still exist in every area on campus.

Mark thanked everyone for coming.

Next meeting
September 13, 2004
11:30 – 1:00
STV 401