MINUTES

Academic Information Technology Committee Meeting
Date: February 28, 2007
Place: Mitchell Center Conference Room

Present: Janet Wilke; Ken Messersmith; Nanette Hogg; Deb Schroeder; Ross Taylor; Joseph Benz
Absent: Marc Albrecht, Greg Anderson, Thomas Schlund

The meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Ross Taylor.

Committee members were asked by Assistant Vice Chancellor Schroeder to solicit input from faculty regarding the use of a classroom response systems (“clickers”) and standardizing on one vendor for the campus. At the present time, two classroom response systems from two different vendors are in use and students may have to purchase two separate clickers at the bookstore. (The bookstore will not buy back a clicker.) At least one vendor will provide the receivers at no cost when a campus standardizes on the vendor’s product. There was discussion about the importance of integration with Blackboard, compatibility with Mac’s, and concern that “clickers” are merely a fad. Ken Messersmith provided handouts on “iclickers” and classroom response systems at the University of Toronto libraries. Additional information for research will be provided via the AIT Blackboard organization for committee members.

As a SCOLA affiliate effective in November 2006, television programming from around the world in native languages is available for educational use on the UNK campus. Instructions for the use of SCOLA (Satellite Communications for Learning Association) resources are available at http://www.unk.edu/offices/its/systems/SCOLA/. Demonstrations of SCOLA offerings have been attended by Library staff and department chairs in the College of Education and the College of Fine Arts and Humanities.

Ross Taylor addressed the Dean’s Council in January regarding the development of a unified structure for IT and IT support at UNK. Committee members will review a research bulletin from the Educause Center for Applied Research, *Improving IT Governance in Higher Education*, to assist in the preparation of a written plan/proposal.

Information Technology Services will host a demo of CoursEval3 from Academic Management Solutions, a product for on-line course evaluations, on Thursday, March 8 at 10am in Otto Olsen 202. Although there is an interest in and a need to conduct evaluations on-line, concerns were raised about response rates for voluntary participation, security, multiple responses, and procedures for administration of on-line evaluations. ITS will attempt to find products that can interface with Blackboard.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25am.

Submitted by: Deb Schroeder