MINUTES
Academic Information Technology Committee Meeting
University of Nebraska Kearney

Date/Time: December 10, 2010, 9:00 a.m.
Place: Library Conference Room

Present: Jon Ritterbush (chair), Aaron Clark, Deb Schroeder, Scott Fredrickson (via phone), Brenda Eschenbrenner, Ken Messersmith, Janet Wilke, Jane Peterson (guest - ITS)

Absent: Nanette Hogg

(Referring to Jon’s agenda items in the order covered)

B. Antivirus

Status of our current antivirus contract was discussed. While UNK has no technical reason to change vendors, a January 15\textsuperscript{th} expiration of our current contract together with a significant price difference between the leading vendor choices (MacAfee at $27,000 and Symantec at $5,000) makes a change seem likely. Per Deb, the final decision will be price based.

Of note:
- Regardless of the eventual vendor, student use licenses will be discontinued.
- Home use rights for employees will change (Deb to advise).
- While MacAfee has agreed to a price reduction, a Big 10 contract offered by Symantec provides a large discount. MacAfee has been generally difficult about the contract negotiations.

A. Clickers

InterWrite clickers and lack of MS Office 2010 compatibility was discussed (a brief history of the decision to use InterWrite was provided by Jane Peterson from ITS). In short, the clickers do not work with certain MS Office 2010 applications; a previous issue with Blackboard seems to have been resolved. The vendor claims the problem is with MS Office and, while updates may be offered by the vendor to address the issue, no firm commitment to do so has been received.

Given a limited faculty pool of users (12, but with MS Office 2007 in smart classrooms) and evolving technology (e.g., cell phones and the Poll Everywhere application which interfaces with Power Point and replicates clicker functionality), the possibility of readdressing the clicker technology issue was raised.

Action item: Jane Peterson forward a list of clicker users to the AIT committee and set up a Blackboard discussion in order to discuss possible clicker technology changes with current users.

C. Overview of IT Academy
Deb gave an overview of Microsoft’s online training modules for its Windows OS and Office line of applications. Through the MS Academic Alliance, courses can be set up and made available to registered users, thereby providing self-paced online instruction in the various uses of Office products. While difficult to administer (courses are hard to set up and users must be individually registered by someone – only a single administrator is allowed), this training tool (at $1,400/year) is significantly less expensive than Atomic Learning and provides very good content (per Jane Peterson). This content could be used to prepare for Microsoft’s certification exams.

Also discussed was the possibility of setting up large sections covering basic Office training which would allow students, staff, and faculty access during the semester.

D. Other

Deb provided an update on the status of the email changeover. Five RFP’s have been accepted and are currently under review with the intent of selecting two finalists.