MINUTES

Academic Information Technology Committee Meeting
University of Nebraska Kearney

Date/Time: November 4, 2011, 8:00 a.m.
Place: Library Conference Room

Present: Jon Ritterbush, Scott Fredrickson (phone), Deb Schroeder, Ken Messersmith, Brenda Eschenbrenner, Nanette Hogg, Janet Wilke, Aaron Clark, Janet Trewin (Faculty Senate)

1. Meeting called to order, committee charged by Janet Trewin.
   a. Jon re-elected committee chair.
   b. Aaron re-elected secretary.
2. Agenda item: guest wireless connectivity.
   a. Due to CALEA, almost all (see b. below) unauthenticated public wireless access on campus not allowed.
      i. For additional information regarding CALEA, see
         2. http://www.askcalea.net/
   b. Campus libraries are exempt from CALEA.
      i. Central Administration is currently negotiating with Gryphon Wireless to provide this for the UNK library.
      ii. Gryphon to manage use or lose licensed broadband spectrum for UNK. This solution would not require a user login or encryption.
   c. In general, guests requiring wireless access on campus need a sponsor.
   d. Groups requiring wireless access need to go through Facilities.
      i. At present, it is unknown what procedure Facilities uses to set up group wireless access.
      ii. It does not seem that wireless requirements for groups are being communicated to ITS, the recent problems in the Union during the National Forensics Tournament being a prime example. During that event, wireless was working in the Union, but the number of available IP addresses (<1,000) was maxed out.
   e. Action items:
      i. Determine how Facilities is planning for group wireless usage.
      ii. Make Facilities aware of wireless address limitations. The problem here is that many people carry multiple devices and many devices use multiple addresses.
      iii. Ensure that Facilities is communicating wireless needs to ITS before groups requiring such access arrive in campus.
3. Agenda item: TaskStream
   a. TaskStream is a commercial e-portfolio for students in General Studies classes.
      i. Selected by Assessment and/or General Studies as a tool for GS student assessment.
      ii. College of Education has used TaskStream for their students’ e-portfolios for five years.
      iii. Students pay $25/semester (or $100/4 years).
iv. Vendor claims data retained “forever”. Even if a subscription is discontinued, it can be reactivated later.

v. Account is tied to individual student and remains accessible to the student as long as the student pays for it.

vi. Account can only be opened online using a credit card.

b. Using tech fees for TaskStream.
   i. Some AIT Committee members of the opinion that tech fees should not be used to pay student subscriptions.
   ii. Such use may fall outside the charter of student tech fee allocation.
   iii. Non-degree and transfer students coming to UNK with GS requirements satisfied could, in this scenario, end up paying for a service they never use.
   iv. At standard rates, would require $100,000/year from tech fees to add 1,000 new first-year students to TaskStream for a four-year subscription. The tech fees would likely need to be increased to absorb this.
   v. Concerns about how UNK alumni could continue their TaskStream accounts if these were setup by ITS and paid from tech fee.
   vi. It was suggested that TaskStream should be regarded as a textbook/materials purchase, managed by students as needed for their courses or career placement.

c. Using TaskStream for faculty e-portfolios and assessment
   i. Could TaskStream be used by faculty for e-portfolios, reviews and assessment?
   ii. Digital Measures – a similar product by a different vendor – may have already been selected by Deans Council.

4. Agenda item: single portal to web services.
   a. Deb provided an online update posted on the Committee’s Blackboard group: “The University of Nebraska is working on “federation” which means that authentication credentials can be trusted across multiple identity management systems. When (or if) we are federated, the same username password will work for Firefly, MyBlue, and campus services like email, Blackboard, etc. UNK ITS is able to utilize EASI credentials for many applications at the campus level.”

5. Agenda item: low rate of return of online course evaluations.
   a. Discussed differences in how these were administered by the various Colleges.
   b. Qualtrics surveys sent by email can indicate who has responded to the survey.
   c. The issue of low response rates may be better addressed by the Deans and/or eCampus

6. Meeting adjourned. Next meeting Friday, December 9, 8am, Library Conference Room.