Respectfully submitted,

Roger Davis, Secretary

Academic Information Technology Committee Mitchell Center Conference Room November 2, 2012 Minutes, 8:00am

Present: Deb Schroeder, Janet Wilke, Jimmy Young, Scott Fredrickson (phone), Brenda Eschenbrenner, Nanette Hogg (chair), Jon Ritterbush, Thomas Freeman (secretary)

Absent: Kenzie Fisher (student representative, conflict with course schedule)

1. Digital Measures for faculty portfolios
   a. Informed that Digital Measures has been adopted with contracts signed, test system loaded and first user meetings scheduled. A goal is to have the system functioning before the accreditation visit.
   b. Some discussion of the process for adoption of the program with concern over apparent lack of faculty input. Seems process was through the administration forming a committee with the Deans providing faculty names for input. The top down approach seemed to not have input from the Faculty Senate (at least no memory of input), and concern was expressed about faculty buy in for the project.
   c. Committee decided to send a list of questions to Kathy Livingston via Nanette Hogg related to the Digital Measures software (purpose, utility to faculty and administration, access to data, data protection, copyrighted materials, etc.).

2. UNK Connections
   a. Discussion related to the discontinuation of UNK Connections as a purchaser of technology for the departments with the implementation of eShop. UNK Connections no longer exists and some roles (personnel) have been merged with the UNK Helpdesk and training and is now named Technology Solutions. Brief discussion occurred on the logic, economics, process and implications of the decision to the University and students. The potential for inappropriate distribution of software from individual campuses to other NU System campuses and the absence of checks to verify hardware and OS compatibility with orders were among the issues discussed.
   b. Currently, the general impression was that all technology purchases must go through eShop; however, due to a lack of a written policy it became apparent that the absolute requirement to use eShop was ambiguous (purchase order vs. purchase card, the apparent absence of a uniform requirement to use eShop across the NU System, purchase price above or below $5000, etc.).
   c. Motion was made by Scott Fredrickson (second Thomas Freeman) to forward a statement to the Faculty Senate as follows:

   Academic Information and Technology Committee strongly disagrees with and does not support the actions of Business Services, which closed UNK Connections to campus departments, thereby substantially increasing costs to the campus and increasing the probability that departments will acquire misconfigured hardware or mislicensed software, in addition to creating delays between ordering and actual deliveries.
Motion passed.
3. iPAD Project
a. Deb Schroeder shared that the iPAD project is expanding with the availability of 95 iPADs for faculty (80 new plus 15 in inventory). She estimates from surveys that 2/3 of faculty have an iPAD.
b. Twenty faculty taught 34 courses utilizing iPADs to approximately 600 students this fall term. Students were loaned about 524 iPADs. Additional loans of devices to students has been limited due to students retaining the loan after course completion (per the Chancellor). The current return rate is about 20%, and students will ultimately have to return the device before leaving the University.
c. Plans are underway to evaluate the iPAD mini and other devices as lower cost alternatives.
d. Much discussion occurred on the need for upgrading the wireless system to accommodate the increased number of mobile devices which often work better with the 802.11n wireless protocol. Deb Schroeder described the Mobil Technology Initiative which should alleviate some issues related to wireless devices such as upgraded wireless hardware throughout the campus (including residence halls), training, staffing, tracking of loaned devices and repairing of damage to loaned devices (cost is the responsibility of the borrower/student and must be through an authorized repair center for warranty).

4. Air conditioner replacement in server room
a. Scott Fredrickson indicated disappointment in the response by UNK Facilities to the alarm resulting from an air conditioning failure at the server facility (ignored for 12 hours) which resulted in over $1M in damaged hardware.
b. Deb Schroeder provided information related to the current redundancy in the air conditioning system (two systems, weekly rotation of usage) and alarm signal directed to UNK Police which notify the appropriate personnel.

5. Differed items for next meeting
a. new technology plan
b. additional information on air conditioning and insurance settlements

6. Other business
   a. next meeting December 7, 2012, 8:00am, Mitchel Center Conference Room

7. Meeting adjourned

Submitted by Thomas Freeman