

MINUTES
Faculty Senate Committee on Technology
October 4, 2011, Union room 213, 3:30 pm

Attending: Bormann, Brooks-Kiefer, Crawford, Knackendoffel, Molidor (via polycom from Salina), Pahwa, Raine, Rintoul, Loren Wilson (for Ken Stafford), Stadlander, Rogers.

Guests: Fran Willbrant, Harvard Townsend

- 1) Approval of minutes for 9/20/2011 meeting – approved by voice vote
- 2) Old business
 - a) Wireless network security update - Harv Townsend updated us on the progress toward the Oct 26 shut-off date when the less secure network K-State.net will be disconnected and the more secure KSU Wireless network will be the primary wireless network used on campus. Guest network will still be available, but access to Zimbra, iSIS, and KSOL is disabled on that unsecure network. Automatic configuration of devices for the new network is available (and preferred), manual options also exist. This network requires your eID and password, so you will need to reconnect when you change that password. Help is available if you need it.
 - b) Varney's website and iSIS links – Varney's will set up a system whereby courses which do not require a textbook can be identified and the instructor can then opt out of the need for providing textbook information every semester. Other issues remain. It was pointed out that the intention of the law mandating the availability of textbook information was to allow students options for purchasing the textbook, and that our current system (links from iSIS directly to Varney's) may not be in that spirit. The current iteration of our iSIS software has the ability to accommodate collection and storage of textbook information. It will still be a project to which resources will need to be allocated. Nagging faculty members to submit their textbook choices will still have to be done if we take this in-house. Perhaps we can investigate how other universities meet this requirement. At the very least we need to figure out a "plan B" if Varney's decides not to do this in the future, or loses the contract to have a bookstore in the Union and wants to sever this tie as well. A rep from Varney's will be invited to a future meeting of FSCOT.
- 3) Report on parental (aka designated) access policy/initiative - Fran Willbrant told us that the initiative to allow parents to access financial information is at a stage where implementation is near. This will probably be available during the spring semester (best-case scenario). Currently some information is available, but is contracted through a 3rd-party vendor. Will be brought into iSIS and vendor discontinued. Students will need to give permission, but then parents will have their own eID and password (to be changed every semester, per usual...) and will be able to make payments, see the bills, view tax information, financial aid disbursements, and a to-do list. The latter two are currently not available. These can all be accessed, or just one, or two etc. Access to grades and academic information (phase II) not to be available without involvement of faculty and appropriate faculty senate committees. There will be issues to be resolved in that area, and most of these are not FSCOT issues, but perhaps FacAff or AcadAff issues. For example, grade access needs to be defined at what level (course grades, mid-semester, freshman progress reports?). Unlikely that access to KSOL will be available to designees. Will need to make academic opt-in information available to faculty members so that they can tell if conversation with the parent is allowed. Current solution for some students is to give the designees the student's eID and password, which is against KSU policy, but does allow access to KSOL etc. The system will also give an option for a 4-digit PIN number, which the designees can use to allow them to talk to someone in the financial aid or controller's office about the bills, etc. This is a welcome and valuable addition to student services on the financial side; will need to work hard to ensure that it is valuable if it gets implemented on academics.
- 4) Report on grant accounting access pilot project - Fran Willbrant said that the training (which was always available to anyone who needed the information) went well, but not very many people took advantage of it (n=2). Broad access to all the accounts (not SRO and not Foundation accounts) is needed for projects where collaboration is needed; significant effort would be needed to tailor access to individuals, and the university does not have the (human) resources to do this. It was useful to educate folks, but probably not something that will be widely used (insufficient

interest, it seems). Departmental accountants can provide the information needed. These are open records, available to anyone who has a reason to know (or a FOIA request).

- 5) Discussion of draft wireless access policy and draft credit card policy - Harv Townsend received our suggestions and comments, and will incorporate them into the policies prior to the next IRMC meeting, where they will be voted on.
- 6) Venue for meetings Oct 18 (Calvin 301) and Dec. 20 (???)

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM
