

Minutes
Faculty Senate Committee on Technology
11/15/2011 – 3:30 PM in Union 213

Attending: Bormann, Brooks-Kiefer, Crawford, Fees, Grinter, Knackendoffel, Molitor, Raine, Rauth, Rintoul, Stadlander, R. Gould (proxy for Stafford)

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting

2. Old business

- A. Discussion of how/if to proceed with resolution of issues arising from iSIS link to Varney's website. - Question arose about whether Varney's had implemented the things that were discussed with Varney's reps at the last meeting, and the presence/absence of any contract between Varney's and the University. Rintoul was tasked with making this request to Steve Levin prior to the next meeting. Logistical details that would need to be worked out if the university took over this process were also discussed. These included 1) if iSIS had the database capability to handle this in-house (Yes), and 2) how much it would cost, how many people etc. would be needed to make this happen (probably significant; needs to be more clear). Implications for Varney's if this was brought in-house were also discussed. Concern for a local business, with close (and philanthropical) ties to the university was expressed. Long-term planning would probably be aided if we can at least have a "plan B" for getting this done if Varney's wanted decided to bow out. If there is no contractual obligation, we need to consider making a contract that both makes the process more conforming to the letter and spirit of the law, and perhaps recoup some of the money that Varney's is making and use it for students directly (perhaps as grants for book costs). We also need to know what other universities are doing Natalie Rauth volunteered to look into this). All of this information would be important as we go forward. Student community needs to be informed and involved as well. Rebecca volunteered to provide historical information (when, where, why was the Varney's link proposed and implemented?) for the minutes. This information is appended below.
- B. Discussion of K-State 2025 items to be forwarded from this standing committee to Faculty Senate President Vontz – Our list will be sent to President Vontz for passing along to President Schulz.

3. New business

- A. Update on wireless network switchover 10/26/2011 – still some issues in Bluemont, apparently.
 - B. Tracking attendance of students receiving federal financial aid – might need to bring Larry Moeder to FSCOT to discuss new federal interest in monitoring attendance of students receiving federal financial aid.
 - C. IRMC meeting Thursday, 2 policies will be considered.
4. Other: Zimbra update upcoming, changes in user interface but should not be particularly noticeable. KSOL upgrade is also upcoming. App for iSIS requested (Raine), but apparently not something that students desire. KSOL mobile app would be a higher priority. Zimbra mobile interface has significantly changed.

Meeting adjourned @ 5:03 PM

Meeting the Textbook Reporting Requirements for HEOA of 2008 Overview (Notes from Rebecca Gould)

Purpose of Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, Public Law 110-315, Section 133

- Ensure students access to affordable college textbooks and supplemental materials
- Encourage all parties to work together to decrease costs
- Support academic freedom in the selection of high quality course/ supplemental materials by faculty or others

Alternatives considered

- Option 1. K-State would collect the information directly from faculty, make it available to students through ISIS as our central repository, then push the required information to the affiliated bookstores.
- Option 2. Affiliated bookstores would continue collecting textbook information from faculty and making it available to students. K-State would add a textbook link in iSIS and the online course schedule so students can immediately link to the information through Varney's, Follet's, or KVESS at the class and section level.
- Selected Option 2 as the only viable strategy to meet July 2010 deadline.

Why Option 2?

- Minimal impact on faculty – most faculty have been providing the information to the bookstores
- Cost-effective - bookstores have processes/ staff in place and K-State would need to develop processes and staff them in a short time period during budget reductions
- Takes advantage of current contracts - we have contracts in place with Varney's and Follet's to perform these functions
- Need to provide required information to affiliated bookstores anyway
- Technology availability - PeopleSoft patch to facilitate data collection in iSIS not available before spring 2010. **The functionality was just released in Bundle 23 and we have opted to not implement.
- Strategy could be reconsidered after the 2010 release of PeopleSoft patch, if desired.