

# Minutes

## Kansas State University Faculty Senate Committee on Technology Meeting

**May 20, 2003 - 1:30 p.m. - Room 205, K-State Union**

Members present: Crow, Haddock, Montelone, Ross, Simmonds, Warren

- 1) Montelone reported on the composition of the committee for next year. Mike Haddock of the Library will be chair. Chang (Engineering), Fritz (Agriculture), Murray (Human Ecology), Ross (Education), and Simmonds (Technology and Aviation) will continue to serve. Havenstein (Extension) and Keithley (Architecture) have completed their three-year terms and their respective caucuses will choose new representatives. Crow (Business Administration) and Pickrell (Vet Med) will likely be replaced as well. Dave Rintoul will replace Montelone as the Arts and Sciences representative. Warren will be the FSCOT representative to the Schedule 25 committee and Ross will continue on the Portal committee.
- 2) Haddock gave an update on the progress of the K-State Digital Library Interface Project, including the very aggressive timeline mandated by the state for this project: it is due to roll out on July 14. He began with some history of the project: it started over a year ago when Zentropy Partners were hired to look at and improve the usability of the KSU Libraries web site. This developed into the Digital Library Project, which is broader than just the Library and includes staff from CNS, Continuing Education, elsewhere on campus, and outside the university. In 2001, the Digital Library Task Force created a beta prototype that employed software called Encompass. K-State has been in partnership with the company that developed Encompass to test its various versions. This program will constitute the search engine for the Digital Library Interface; it can search campus holdings as well as commercial sources such as databases and electronic journals for which K-State owns site licenses. Haddock is serving as the project manager; another early contributor was Lloyd Walker, who wrote the project proposal. Haddock and the steering committee have been working with Zentropy to create the interface, which is, in essence, a portal.

Haddock made clear the distinction between the KSU Libraries homepage, which will be just a directory, and the Digital Library Interface, which will have all the search capabilities of Encompass. Searches may be initiated using Encompass in one of four different modes: 1) Basic, which will allow searching of our holdings and some databases (those with unlimited access); 2) Customized or Expert, which allows a defined cross-database search; 3) direct search of single specific databases; and 4) a feature called "My Library", which allows the user to specify a series of favorite, commonly used databases and sources. Search times may be an issue initially because this engine searches across all of our collections and databases - it is not the same as a simple web search. IT is likely that training in use of the interface will be needed; subject specialists from the Library will provide this.

A question that has been difficult during the development of the interface is where the user will need to input the eID that allows them access to proprietary materials. This has an impact on how searches are conducted.

In future, it is hoped that the Digital Library will be involved in

acquiring and making available new collections of digital materials, together with appropriate metadata. There does not yet exist large amounts of this type of content.

- 3) Montelone gave a report from the IRMC meeting of May 15 on the status of various issues:
- . Jane Rowlett is looking for faculty members to serve on a user group for "Scholars' Desk" aspect of Portal Project.
  - . Security is improved but there are still some systems Dr. Unger not comfortable with - these are being taken offline nights and weekends. The Security SWAT team is looking at 2nd tier machines to identify possible holes. Security architecture for campus is being designed.
  - . Central email system will cost 300-350K; will provide email, virus, spam protection. Will tag messages as probable spam; mail server will need configuring. ITAC will be doing education in fall on how to use this.
  - . Looking at instant messaging on campus - is it needed, would it be helpful. Would not be expensive. Unger and Townsend are seeking input.
  - . State of KS policy on email and instant messaging has been approved by Info Tech Advisory Board. Will require listing of email and systems servers, administrators. SIRT will work on this.
  - . Council of data resource stewards - needs charge, needs someone from research/teaching side. Will be moving forward.
  - . Portal project - team members have met with Student Senate, Dean's Council, and student affairs directors to demonstrate capabilities. Developers will be at work over summer and have a few pages ready in Sept-Oct. Policies will need to be developed and put in place re. administration, "branding", "look", content, and advertising. Templates for portlets will be made available.