

Minutes

Kansas State University Faculty Senate Committee on Technology

May 6, 2004 - 2:00 PM - K-State Union 205

Members present: Haddock, Michaels, Murray, Rintoul, Ross, Simmonds, Selfridge

Guests: David Stewart, Rebecca Gould, Tim Bagby, Loleta Sump, Rob Caffey, Ernie Perez, Beth Unger

David Stewart, Assistant Dean, Division of Continuing Education, reported on K-State initiatives with community colleges. Due to security issues, classes previously held at Fort Riley were transitioned to campus and folded into Evening College. This process led to looking at other audiences for Evening College. This included marketing to community colleges and community college satellites within a 60-75 mile radius of Manhattan: Highland in Wamego, Cloud County in Junction City, Butler County in Council Grove, and Allen County in Burlingame. Contact was made with deans and student services representatives of these institutions to get the word out about Evening College and to build cooperative and collaborative efforts. Ongoing major initiatives are promotion and the development of articulation agreements. Additionally, K-State has agreements with Barton County Community College in Great Bend and Dodge City Community College. These agreements involve having a site coordinator located at those institutions to help students in their transition to K-State and to cultivate relationships and connections. Many of the students enrolled in Evening College are non-traditional and are very interested in our distance programs. We are seeing increased participation. Currently we provide six Bachelor's degree completion programs to non-traditional students. Technology and connectivity are essential components for K-State to serve these constituencies. In addition, K-State Online is being used by some of these institutions as a course management system. FSCOT members had questions regarding numbers of students enrolled and the growth curve of these enrollments. Stewart will get Haddock the DCE registration and credit hour report for distribution to the FSCOT members.

Rebecca Gould, Director, Information Technology Assistance Center, Tim Bagby, Manager/Administrator iTAC, and Loleta Sump, Support Services Manager for University Facilities, were in attendance to answer questions regarding the scheduling of technology classrooms. Earlier this semester a problem occurred with the scheduling of classrooms for some chemistry exams. Six rooms were needed but only five had been reserved, which resulted in the exams having to be given a second time when all rooms were available. They are now checking in advance to confirm that all needed rooms are reserved. Gould stated that Resource 25 could be put online, but that option is under a moratorium due to LASER project work. Loleta Sump explained the procedure for scheduling ORC (quizzes outside of regular class time). Large technology classrooms are pretty much booked-up on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings. Rintoul expressed concern with the communication process. He asked if something could be done to streamline the process of scheduling technology classrooms so that only one person had to be notified rather than a list of individuals. He also discussed ongoing scheduling issues with a dedicated Division of Biology technology classroom. Gould will speak with Vice Provost Unger regarding Biology classroom 219 and will work with the appropriate people to streamline the process for scheduling of technology classrooms. Gould announced that there are SWAT teams working on new technology classrooms.

McCain 324 is being renovated and will have 15 computers placed in it. This will permit students and faculty in the Music Department to utilize digitized music. Work on Eisenhower 201 and Cardwell 102 and 103 will be completed by the summer of 2005. Work in Justin 109

will be finished this summer.

Rob Caffey, Director of Mediated Education, and Ernie Perez, Media Development Center Coordinator, reported on the Tegrity Notes Project. Tegrity has been in use at K-State for about four years. There are currently 12 to 13 Tegrity systems in place around campus. The Tegrity Notes Project allows students to take notes on a tablet PC and later refer back to the exact point in the lecture where the note was taken. Three classes are participating in this project this semester: two in Agricultural Economics, (one undergraduate and one graduate), and one Computing and Information Sciences class. Tegrity, Microsoft, K-State, and Acer are collaborating on the project. Acer loaned 20 tablet PCs to K-State and 25 more were purchased. Feedback is gathered from instructors, students, and the tech support staff. Perez gave a brief demonstration. Students download the instructor's PowerPoint prior to the class. The instructor's lecture is captured on video as it is given. Each student has his or her own tablet PC for the semester and takes notes on the screen during class using a stylus. At a later time the student can review the notes side-by-side with the PowerPoint slides and the video of the instructor giving the lecture. These are time-synchronized so that a particular word or phrase in the student's notes is highlighted at the exact point in the lecture when it was written down. The final results of this project will be available in about three weeks. FSCOT members expressed an interest in seeing the outcomes of this project. The intent is to repeat the project during the fall semester with students in the Developing Scholars Program.

Caffey also reported on K-State Online version 5.0. Expected rollout will be at the beginning of August. Enhancements include: a new content organization and management system, back-end virus scanning of all uploaded files, a student grouping tool, improved online assignment creation and question randomization tools, the ability to adjust an individual letter grade, a printable view of the gradebook and assignments, a new chat and whiteboard system, user "personal info" home page, and the ability to add attachments to files in message board. The new version is being tested in various browsers and operating systems. K-State Online 5.0 will be beta tested June 28-July 16. Volunteers are needed for this beta testing. Testing will involve a scheduled 1-2 hour session in a lab as well as the opportunity to explore the system on your own. Interested individuals should contact Rob Caffey. A generic branded system is also in development that will be marketed as "Astra*". Rintoul asked if it would be possible to incorporate CC (carbon copying) capability into the next version and Simmonds inquired about ADA compliance.

Vice Provost Unger joined the meeting late, due to a prior commitment. She reported briefly on several items. SASSER hit Tuesday afternoon. Of the 369 computers on campus that were still vulnerable to the worm, about 100 were infected before they were removed from the network. A few of these machines had to be re-imaged. Managed computing, i.e. automatic centralized updating of virus definitions and critical updates will begin in August. Residence hall machines will be targeted first. A group is currently meeting to examine options for online submission of grades.

FSCOT members asked that FSCOT be apprised of progress in regard to this issue. The new e-mail enhancement system will have spam filtering turned-on as the default. There will be centralized blacklisting of known spam sites. Currently, one third of all campus e-mail is spam. This figure is expected to rise to 50% within the next year.

Tweed Ross will be chairing Faculty Senate Committee on Technology in the coming year.