

Minutes
Faculty Senate Committee on Technology
December 7, 2004 – Bluemont 16e

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Wayne Michaels (substituting for Tweed Ross) at 2:35 PM

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the Nov. 2, 2004 meeting were approved with no changes.

Attendance:

Committee Members: _Fran Wilbrant, Wayne Michaels, Dave Rintoul, John Selfridge, Beth Turtle, John Fritz, Jane Garcia, Gloria Holcombe

Announcements:

Michaels announced that SIRT had recommended a mass mailing to students and faculty regarding phishing scams, since “several” students have been victimized by these schemes recently. In other words, CNS will be spamming all of us soon.

Old Business:

The revised resolution on the University Portal was discussed. The Portal resolution passed with the following minor changes: In the next to last WHEREAS - spell out Seventy Percent; and in the last WHEREAS, place a hyphen between Faculty and Senate to read Faculty-Senate. This will be forwarded to the Executive Committee for approval. All agreed that this version was much improved, and agreed that Chairman Ross had done a good job incorporating the changes discussed in November. (See Attachment 1)

Turtle discussed her draft report on the use of electronic devices for academic dishonesty (cheating). Her literature search turned up a few case of this, but she did not find it to prevalent (yet). The most egregious cases were at the University of Maryland. KSU Honor Council statistics indicated that plagiarism of material from the Internet accounted for about 85% of the academic dishonesty cases here. Fritz indicated that he thought KSU had one case of electronic device-mediated cheating, but that it was adjudicated outside of the Honor Council; he suggested contacting Phil Anderson to corroborate this. It was agreed that communication with faculty, and reliance on the Honor Code, would be the best outcome of any policy proposal. Turtle indicated that her rough draft needed more work (e.g. adding citations) before it was ready to be circulated beyond the committee, and asked members to send suggested changes to her.

The committee members then turned to discussion of the policy on electronic communication of grades and other confidential information, forwarded to FSCOT from IRMC. Some questions arose regarding the next step for this policy if we approved it. Does it go back to IRMC, or does it then become university policy?

Many committee members had questions and/or reservations about this policy. These included:

- Clarification of what constitutes an “official” email address for KSU students (are forwarding addresses official?)
- How confidential/secure is the KSU email system?
- Should there be an additional section on administrative uses of email for communication with students?
- Should the policy include instructions on the inclusion of Social Security Numbers (aka student numbers) in email communication?
- Should a sentence be added to the introduction, i.e. “Students, faculty and staff are **STRONGLY** encouraged to use their ksu.edu address for all university-related communication.” Is the policy intentionally vague, or do levels of confidential information need to be more specifically defined?

It was agreed that the best course of action, given these questions and reservations about the draft policy, would be to convene a joint meeting with IRMC and generate a policy that both deliberative bodies could agree upon. It was agreed that Chairman Ross should endeavor to set up such a meeting in the near future.

New Business:

Attention then turned to the request from Miriam Clark (head of the Metadata Repository Steering Committee) for volunteer faculty members to serve on this committee. After a discussion of the exact definition of metadata, it was determined that the faculty members in the room were not willing or able to serve on this committee, but it was also agreed that faculty input (as well as IT, administrative, and other input) was probably important. This position does not have to be filled by a Faculty Senator, but it is important to fill it soon, since the committee chair plans to convene the group in December and January. No further action was taken. Fran is already on the Metadata committee and would agree to represent FSCOT, but if Miriam wants another faculty member, then you'll need to appoint someone, as no one volunteered

The final item of business was to set the date for the next FSCOT meeting. That date will be Jan 11, 2005.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM

Respectfully submitted by D.A. Rintoul.

**ATTACHMENT 1
RESOLUTION**

**A Resolution of the Kansas State University Faculty Senate Urging
Administration to Secure Dedicated Funding for the Development of a
Comprehensive University Enterprise Portal**

WHEREAS Portal Technology has become and is becoming a prominent feature of major university information technology access, AND

WHEREAS Portal Technology provides a secure, single point of entry, allowing specific organization and community information access through authenticated websites, AND

WHEREAS Kansas State University has engaged in significant information technology developments that serve as precursors to the development of comprehensive portal technology, AND

WHEREAS the Higher Priority Action Items of the Updated Strategic Planning Committee 2001 Report specifically notes that "...a Portal system and authorization system are under way." AND

WHEREAS portal technologies provide significant advantages to the teaching, service and research mission of the university for both students and faculty, AND

WHEREAS a comprehensive portal will provide information for faculty and students in a timely manner, centralized with relevant information in one page, and customized links each time a K-Stater visits the portal, AND

WHEREAS seventy percent of college-bound high school juniors begin their college search via the web and web-based visual tours are second only to actual campus tours in luring students to a specific campus; (Wall Street Journal, 10/30/02), AND

WHEREAS K-State Faculty and the Faculty-Senate would benefit from access to a secure course approval workflow process and other faculty centered activities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FACULTY SENATE OF KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY THAT;

Central Administration is urged to secure dedicated funding for the development of a comprehensive university portal sufficient to provide single sign-on authenticated and authorized access to ALL the university information resources in ways that will enhance the teaching, service and research needs of the faculty and students, AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

Central Administration ensure that the Kansas State University community be adequately supported in the use of this new portal technology in ways that will enhance their access to university resources such as, but not limited to:

- Kansas State Libraries
- KATS
- Class Management Systems
- LASER
- University Accounting
- Financial Aid
- Other such information resources as faculty, students and administrative personnel, prospective students and other members of the university community require to enhance their professional responsibilities for teaching research, service, and administration.

Passed /date/

Jackie Spears, President, Kansas State University Faculty Senate.