Minutes for IT Advisory Committee 03/24/2010 meeting

Meeting organizer: Shawn Carraher (elected Chair) & Debbie Goode

Recorder: Hui Tan (elected Secretary)

Time: 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Members present: Andrew Baker, Woogie Burgess, Shawn Carraher, Mike Estep, Debbie Goode, Margot Gregory, Chris Keller, Keith McIsaac, Dave Smith, Hui Tan, Wensheng Wang

1. The IT Advisory Committee selected the Chair: Dr. Shawn Carraher from Business School

2. The IT Advisory Committee selected the secretary: Dr. Hui Tan from School of Science and Technology

3. The following members are selected to have terms ending next year (2010-2011):
   - Dave Smith from Science and Technology
   - Kelly McClure from Education and Behavioral Science
   - Andrew Baker from Liberal Arts

4. The IT Advisory Committee had an overview of Banner

Goode: The University used home grown software on an HP3000 from 1975 until 2001. In 2001, we purchased software for the HP3000. In 2002, end-of-life was announced for the HP3000. In 2005, we migrated to a UNIX system. The company was sold to Sungard Higher Ed and the company announced end-of-life for the software we were running. They offered deep discounts for their customers to migrate to Banner, making this opportunity affordable. In 2008, we bought hardware for Banner and started migration once again. We have been through three migrations since 2002. Any problem these two days in using the Banner?

Smith: Banner keeps on kicking me out after I retrieve the students’ pin

Estep: Prerequisite won’t let students enroll even if the student has already taken the class.

Goode: not all academic history is in place at this time.

Estep: Can each department assign several representatives to override during enrollment?
Goode: I checked with Dr. Aubree Helvey: The chairs and deans have the ability to override the prereq “department permission” only, but not all prereqs. She will send a faculty email for clarification in the next few days that clarifies this issue.

Smith: Military credits are not recognized in Banner

Goode: I will contact Linda (Registration) for this.

Carraher: As for my training, chairs are supposed to be able to override.

Goode: I will verify it.

5. The IT Advisory Committee had an overview on Blackboard and its replacement

Goode: Blackboard is hosted in Washington D.C., with annual payment of $83,000 from Cameron University. Is it possible to replace it with some other system?

Baker: Moodle is a possible replacement. Low fee.

Keller: D2L might be another possible replacement. OU and OSU use it. It is easy to use, especially in terms of migration. The faculty only needs to copy and paste from the old system to the new system. We can recommend it to the Faculty Senate.

Burgess: Blackboard may be broken down due to antitrust allegation against it. Although Moodle is free and is used by Western Oklahoma State, but there is no security to protect students’ information. And a personnel are needed to handle the software. That cost is not cheap. Desired to Learn may be a solution. It is less expensive, built up by a strong and growing company. It is used by big schools. Most students that I talked to prefer Desire to Learn.

Smith: Do faculties have to rebuild each class?

Burgess: We can hire temporary hands (students, graduate students) to do migration.

Carraher: We can set up a sub-committee) in which a faculty senator member can join for discussion.

6. Sub-committee members are selected: Chris Keller (Liberal Arts) and Andrew Baker (Liberal Arts)

7. The IT Advisory Committee is going to update the computer lab inventory and smart classroom inventory across the campus. The update will be emailed to Debbie Goode through email.

8. The IT Advisory Committee had a discussion on requests from departments.

(1) Biology Department requested 12 computers for Biology labs
(2) Hui Tan asked about the procedure to forward a request to IT Advisory Committee. Debbie Goode answered that the first step is the departments present the justifications to IT Advisory Committee after being approved through their department chair and dean. The second step is to forward the request to the Vice President Dr. McArthur.

9. Shawn Carraher suggested to set up a channel on Banner to post minutes.

10. Sylvia Burgess reminded that we should look at the mission of the IT Advisory Committee next time we meet.

11. Debbie Goode and Wensheng Wang suggested to manage student printing. They suggested for example, to let students to print their first 500 pages for free, but charge certain fees per page after that limit.

12. Next meeting is set up at 10 AM on April 30th, 2010. If needed, one more meeting after that can be scheduled.