

Faculty IT Subcommittee

December 9, 2013

Tigert 226, 2:00 p.m.

Attendees

Frank Bova, Sue Alvers, Anne Allen, Tawnya Means, Elias Eldayrie, Rafael Munoz Carpena, Jack Stenner, Terry Harpold, Trevor Bopp, Raymond Issa, Pasha Antonenko, Fedro Zazueta, Thomas Brown, Joseph Wilson, David Carlson, and Robyn Gleason (via phone)

Call to Order

Frank Bova, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. The minutes from October 2013 were approved.

Strategic Plan

- Elias Eldayrie gave background information on the current IT Strategic Plan. He noted that about three years ago Information Technology had a governance committee with representatives from different areas. There were also focus groups consisting of Faculty Senate representatives, Deans, and students. He emphasized that strategic plans are living documents and it is healthy to look at them every few years. This next plan should last about 3-5 years.
- Student Information System
 - The student information system is 30 years old and coded in Assembly Language. The language runs on a mainframe and those who work on this system are retiring. After researching options, it was decided to replace the old student information system with the student module in Peoplesoft that the university already owns.
- Suggestions from members on what the university needs to do to improve information technology:
 - Security on mobile devices: Mobile devices are not being used with the best security.
 - Classrooms: Many resources are devoted to classrooms. Why don't professors carry their own laptops instead of equipping classrooms with computers?
 - The projector and network need to talk to a variety of devices. Instructors have a variety of software and diverse tools.
 - The university should be as platform agnostic as possible
 - The campus needs a standard that fits the whole university. There is a second layer of classrooms that are supported by college IT.
 - It's important that classrooms are connected for distance education. Multi-media systems will become more important as time goes by.
 - UFOonline in the Strategic Plan should emphasize in principle what is right for pedagogy. Information technology should serve UFOonline instead of UFOonline serving information technology. As UFOonline grows it will drive many of the information technology decisions.
 - Subcommittee should come up with minimum standards for all classrooms because not all rooms are centralized. Many classrooms are managed by colleges.
 - Technology should complement what faculty do. The university cannot afford two LMS systems. Faculty should assist in deciding which LMS system to use.
 - Concern was raised about communication with new policies and when new software is implemented.

- Many faculty live on their computer. Is there a way that the university can provide a “virtual pc” instead of going vpn?
- Would be great if there was local help when IT problems arise in the classroom.
- The university should have IT faculty development instead of training.
- A place for long term file storage would be helpful.

Frank mentioned that he will try to sum up the discussion today and send out an email.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.