

## Information Technology Council Meeting

Thursday, March 26, 2026

3:30 – 4:30 pm

Library Room 206

### Minutes

Chair Jeff Coiner, CIO called the session to order at 3:36 pm and a quorum was present.

**Members Present:** Jeff Coiner (Chair), Greg Rainwater (Deputy Chair), C.J. Collins (Remote), Mansa Aryal (SGA), Phil Bridges (Remote), Dr. David Meinert, Angela Barker, William Hader, Brad Davidson (Absent), Brian Hayes (Absent), Drew Marcum, Breno Viani, Michael Foster (Absent), and Eric Shively on behalf of Ian Alaimo

**Also present:** Theresa McCoy (Remote) and Nicole Muse (Remote)

1. Welcome Jeff Coiner
  - Approval of minutes from 03.05.2026

Attendees were asked if they had any questions or comments about the minutes from the last meeting. No changes or objections were noted.

**Decision:** Previous meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

**Action Item:** Nicole to post the approved minutes on the website.

2. Voting on SCUF Proposals All

Mr. Greg Rainwater presented the annual **SCUF (Student Computer Usage Fund)** overview and acknowledged continued use of established budget templates and processes. The funding priorities include:

- Open-access computer labs (including staffing)
- Software contractual obligations (multi-year agreements)
- Student worker support
- Hardware lifecycle replacements
- Innovation Fund (target:10%)
- Ongoing operational and infrastructure costs

#### SCUF Funds Overview

Two Primary Funds:

- **BearPrint Fund** (printing service; included POS system cost)
- **SCUF share of Student Services Fees**

**Noted:** \$80,000 spent last year from **BearPrint funds** on printer upgrades

The council discussed the fee structure and proposed to rename the “Student Computer Usage Fee” to Technology Fee. This reflects the broader scope beyond computer labs and aligns with naming used at MSU West Plains campus.

### Revenue & Budget Review

- FY26 projected revenue is approximately **\$2.86 million**, exceeding budget expectations
- Revenue trends indicate continued recovery following the pandemic-related decline in FY21–FY22
- In FY27, if actual revenue exceeds budget the **Innovation Fund** will receive funding to bring it to 10% of budgeted revenue as per the allocation guidelines

## Key Budget Areas

### a. Software & Licensing

- Systems of Note:
  - Brightspace (LMS)
  - Microsoft Campus Agreement (cost increases expected)
  - Adobe Creative Cloud (significant price increase)
  - SPSS (now includes administrative use)

### b. Networking & Infrastructure

- Increased support for wireless access (aligned with shift away from wired labs)
- Lifecycle planning emphasized

### c. Classroom Technology

- Current allocation: \$225,000 (unchanged)
- Identified **significant funding gap** for classroom upgrades
- Need for prioritization list of classroom upgrades

### d. Security Camera Discussion

- Rising costs for camera replacement (\$300 → \$800+ per unit)
  - Concerns:
    - Lifecycle funding
    - Maintenance responsibility
    - Safety expectations (AI monitoring, facial/object recognition)
  - Recommendation:
    - Revisit funding model (possibly via Student Safety Fund)
    - Engage University Safety for further discussion

### e. Printing Services

- Transition to Toshiba printers has reduced maintenance issues
- Printing costs have significantly decreased from prior years

### f. Student Worker Support

- Continued reliance on student workers across departments
- Reduction in total hours over time (over 50% decrease)
- Wage adjustments:
  - Minimum student wage increased to \$15/hour
  - Tier structure simplified

## Proposal Review Outcome

- All submitted proposals were reviewed and advanced
- Minor modifications made (e.g., classroom technology requests)

## Voting on SCUF Budget

- Mr. Jeff Coiner motioned to approve budget as presented
- No objections raised from all attendees
- Result: **Approved unanimously**

## Closing Remarks

- Appreciation expressed to Greg and Kevin for budget preparation
- Emphasis on continued planning for:
  - Classroom technology
  - Security infrastructure
  - Long-term funding sustainability

### 3. Discussion: Criteria for accepting innovation fund requests All

The council discussed the need for a clear and consistent evaluation framework for Innovation Fund proposals, emphasizing that funding should prioritize truly innovative, high-impact initiatives rather than routine upgrades or repeat requests. Key considerations include sustainability of ongoing costs, opportunities for shared or cost-matched funding, and both the breadth and depth of student impact. Strong alignment with the university's teaching mission, strategic goals, and contributions to recruitment and retention were identified as critical factors. The group also highlighted the importance of scalability, cross-college benefit, and incorporating student feedback into the decision-making process, while improving proposal data collection and categorization for future funding cycles.

### 4. SOAR Chromebook project update All

The council reviewed the SOAR Chromebook Project, which proposes the purchase of approximately 265 Chromebooks to support student onboarding and registration during SOAR sessions. The initiative aims to enhance the student experience by ensuring reliable, standardized access to technology during orientation. With an estimated cost of \$140,000–\$150,000, the devices will include extended warranty and support to ensure sustainability. The project is designed with scalability in mind, allowing for additional devices if enrollment increases, and is viewed as a strategic investment in improving efficiency, accessibility, and first impressions for incoming students.

### 5. Reminders/Updates All

- Office of Information Services' move to University Hall on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, was successful
- Upcoming Change: New VPN Solution - we are transitioning from **Cisco AnyConnect** to our new VPN platform, **Palo Alto GlobalProtect**. The legacy **Cisco AnyConnect** client will be **decommissioned by April 20, 2026**.
- On Sunday April 26, 2026, Banner Q1 upgrades will be applied to the production system. During this time, you should plan for Banner and related systems to be unavailable between 6:00 am to 6:00 pm.

### 6. Next meeting on Friday, April 17, 2026 All

- 11 am – 12:00 pm
- Strong Hall, Room 250, for the RCASH edition

The members of the IT Council did not have any other business to discuss.  
The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.