IT Council
MINUTES
CARR 203 11/11/09

Members Present: Sue Ingram, Jeff Morrissey, Kevin Piercy, John Maddux, Greg Rainwater, Steve Robinette, and Ken McClure.
Others: Mark Harsen

Everyone was informed that due to print quota implementation in the four open-access labs printing cost in these labs are down 33% ($9000+ in savings) for the first ten weeks of the semester.

The "Print Quotas at Benchmark Institutions" handout was discussed. Please see handout for further information. Statistics of printing were discussed. The majority of students are below 200 pages right now. It was discussed that the students are allowed to request additional pages and that those students' names are noted. See the handout covering the statistics for further information. Please see Kevin Piercy with any questions you may have regarding the printing statistics. The subcommittee report will be available at the next IT meeting. The committee is leaning toward recommending to IT Council that quota limitations should be expanding into tier two facilities in the spring and all remaining labs wishing to participate in the fall of 2010. After the December meeting, if approved by IT Council the subcommittee recommendation will be taken to the ALC.

Mark Harsen, Coordinator of the Networking unit of Computer Services was introduced. He discussed the "Networking Unit" handout (see attachment). Jeff Morrissey then discussed the "University's Networking Bandwidth" handout (see attachment). It was discussed that policies and associated governing processes need to be developed to ensure appropriate and efficient use of the University's bandwidth. It was stressed that if we are to maximize our investments in campus bandwidth we must utilize it as efficiently as possible. Also, discussions were proposed to investigate possible changes to the bandwidth funding model. Traditionally the Office of the President has been the sole contributor to funding campus bandwidth. The Office of Residential Life contribution of $30K to the central bandwidth fund was discussed. It was stated that they will set the precedent for others who may become contributors to the bandwidth usage. Recommendations resulting from this discussion were:

1.) Require entities that are major consumers of campus bandwidth or require priority bandwidth to contribute to the central funding source used to pay annual MOREnet fees.

2.) To ensure fair and equitable use, form a bandwidth subcommittee with a mission to develop policies and associated enforcement processes.

It was suggested to move to an immediate increase of bandwidth. However, this needs to be investigated further and some options presented to the President. The council agreed with these recommendations and moved to form a subcommittee to look into this situation further. The SGA Resolution handout regarding Network Neutrality was then discussed. It was recommended that the bandwidth sub-committee also be tasked with researching and responding to the SGA Resolution document. It was decided to discuss this topic again at the December IT Council meeting.

Steve Robinette led a discussion on iTunes U. Discussions centered on how MSU "is" iTunes U, and how we provide the majority of the content for iTunes U. It was clarified that iTunes U was not the high priority issue; the highest priority is the multi-media in the classroom. It was discussed that iTunes U was a large consumer of bandwidth because content is stored on campus instead of at iTunes. Options for iTunes U were discussed. It was questioned if Apple could provide the necessary storage cheaper than bandwidth costs.

Solicitation of proposals was discussed. It was questioned how to operate this. It was suggested to bring a timeline and how it was done last year to the next IT Council meeting in December. It was also questioned how it should be communicated to the colleges.

Investing in a NAC (Network Access Control) system was mentioned.   Everyone was informed that when someone connects to the network, it will look at whether or not the correct malware is installed, virus protection up-to-date, etc. and help keep attacks from happening. Discussions are to continue on this issue in later meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra A. Arthur
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Office of the Provost