

Information Resources Committee Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2009, 11:30am

Attending:

Bill Bomberger
Jason Colquitt
Sandy Kramer
Gary McGill
Tawnya Means
Andy Naranjo
Eric Olsen

Not attending:

Haldun Aytug
Robyn LeBoeuf

Gary led a discussion of the committee's areas of focus for the coming year. He noted that the committee should continue to provide oversight into IT issues. He also suggested that we should attend to three issues:

1. We should facilitate Eric's efforts to create a centralized system for faculty data (like CV details). This would prevent faculty from having to provide or enter the same data multiple times.
2. We should communicate with the faculty and staff in our academic units to see if they have any IT issues for us to consider, including classroom issues and CBAHelp issues. We'll discuss the details of that vetting process at our next meeting. Eric noted that classroom issues should improve over time given the new relationship with Crestron.
3. The university is transitioning from WebCT (due to be deactivated by Blackboard) to Sakai. The transition will be piloted over the summer and should be complete by fall of 2010.

Tawnya noted the need for more nominees for the Judy Fisher award for teaching with technology. The consensus was that the award should be advertised like other teaching awards, so that individuals could ask their unit heads to nominate them. As it is, unit heads probably aren't actively seeking nominations because the award gets lost in the shuffle. Tawnya will contact unit heads to explain the award, noting that it need not be cutting edge technology per se—it could instead be using more typical technologies (like email) in a novel way.

Tawnya also showed a video clip that illustrates changes in the Stuzin Hall studio. Faculty can now stand next to a screen and Chris will cut from that view to

the slide view or go picture-in-picture (without the “floating head” look). Faculty can also switch to Smartboard mode to write on the screen. Faculty voiced the desire to have a monitor to see what the students are currently seeing (a monitor that could be turned off if faculty preferred it that way).

Eric led a discussion of two forthcoming technology changes:

1. The G: and H: drives will be relabeled P: (for personal) and S: (for shared) drives, respectively. This will allow for the use of more USB drives that are beginning to utilize those letters. This effort will commence in the coming weeks.
2. College email addresses and the College URL will transition from “cba” to “warrington.” Emails to cba.ufl.edu addresses will automatically be forwarded to warrington.ufl.edu addresses for as long as the user prefers. Visitors to www.cba.ufl.edu will automatically be forwarded to www.warrington.ufl.edu. Given that this will also affect the way users log-in to the College network, Eric will likely take this opportunity to transition to the University’s active directory (which will be accessed using our Gatorlink password). We will also transition to the University’s centralized exchange email server. These transitions should be complete by spring.

Tawnya asked for feedback on the best way to alert faculty to non-critical information (refreshers, reminders). The consensus was to put such details in a newsletter style email and send them out periodically.

Tawnya also voiced the need for a way to build head count in IT seminars. Last semester seminars were offered on Web 2.0 and assessments, but the seminars are geared toward faculty participation, which requires a critical mass of participants.