

Central Student Technology Committee (CSTC)
Meeting: Tuesday January 31, 2006
Location: Union 203

Attendees: Maggie Deming, Jesse Ballard, Robert Morrison, Grayson Baird, Christy Boggs, Tami Browning, Charles Christensen, Glen Cox, Cheryl Hilman, Brittany Jurich, Warrie Means, Graham Mitchell, John Nutter, Jack Hatfield II, Ken Smith, Mark Sunderman, Renee Tihen

1. CSTC Budget report

Maggie explained the current projects and future projects. Maggie explained that CSTC funds no longer roll-over. College funds will roll-over, the only exception is the ADA and Student Affairs funding, which are on the same restrictions as the CSTC.

2. College Budget reports

Maggie explained that individual college budget reports on projects approved in Spring 2005 are due to her by the last working day of February. Maggie will send a notice to the list-serve as well.

3. Arthur Backup testing results

Bob Morrison reported on the Arthur backup situation. Initial testing indicates that upgrading the IBM and using high-speed disks will increase performance enough to allow for the use of the existing backup system for the new Arthur.

Glen asked if the hard disks on the SAN would be dedicated to student use. Bob explained that it would not be dedicated for student use, but the overall backup system has not been funded by the CSTC. The purchase of the disks would be to increase the over-all performance of backups on campus.

Glen questioned if there would be a value gained by purchasing a dedicated backup system. Bob stated that the cost of providing the same functionality would be significantly more.

Charles Christensen moved to allocate \$191,000 for Arthur server, disk array and backup solution

Mark Sunderman seconded the motion

Approved – all

Opposed – none

Abstain - none

4. WiMax

Bob Morrison provided a broad-overview of the WiMax technology. The D technology would provide a replacement for DSL and cable modem connections.

InfoTech has been watching the technology, but the technology is still in its infancy. Because the technology is new there are no plans for UW to implement any WiMax technology, but IT will constantly be evaluating the industry developments.

Bob also explained that a funding proposal has been submitted to the state legislature to provide wireless across campus. This funding would not be for WiMax technology, but an expansion of the existing wireless.

5. Lab Stats software

Maggie explained that Information Technology has been examining ways to provide more accurate lab usage statistics. Jesse has been evaluating a software package, LabStats, which will allow for more accurate usage statistics. The software would require a license for each computer and the purchase of a server. The software would allow statistics to be gathered on a real-time basis and a web page will be developed that students can go to in order to see what computers are being used and what computers are available. The usage data will help the committee determine what labs are used the most, the least, the optimal number of lab nodes for any lab, and where reinvestments are appropriate.

Glen Cox moved to approve \$19,400 for the purchase of Lab Stats software and server

John Nutter seconded the motion

Mark Sunderman questioned if this software would be available for use in labs other than those controlled by the CSTC. Jesse explained that the funding requested would cover licenses for all UWStudent computer labs on campus

Approved – all

Opposed – none

Abstain – none

6. Web Cameras for security purposes

Maggie explained in the past the committee did not want to fund web cameras because of privacy concerns and that the cameras may be used to stalk students. Charles Christensen questioned what benefit it would provide to students. Jesse and Maggie explained that it would be used to help prevent theft and provide information to investigative authorities about those who might have stolen

equipment. The cameras would also allow the Academic Support Unit to better monitor the printing pay stations and provide an increased level of security for the Email kiosks.

Maggie tabled the discussion until the next meeting.

Brittany Jurich asked if research could be done on the possibility of providing a computer or computers in the commons area of Summit View and Spanish Walk apartments. There are no computers in either of those living areas. Maggie said that she and Jesse would look at the areas and determine if any solution could be recommended. That work would be completed in March.

Maggie adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm