

Central Student Technology Committee (CSTC)
Meeting: Wednesday November 15, 2006
Location: Union 002

Attendees: Maggie Deming, Jesse Ballard, James Ward, Warrie Means, Chris Primus, Graham Mitchell, Robert Morrison, Mark Sunderman, Tami Browning, John Nutter, Katherine Bies, Marcus Curley

1. Introductions

Introductions were made by all the committee members present.

2. System Requests

Maggie explained that she wanted to go through all of the requests first prior to voting on any of them. She then asked Bob to explain the various requests.

Bob explained the differences of the servers and the price variation. The Web Server needs a lot more disk space, which would be on the existing SAN. There is 8 times the CPU capacity, a lot more memory, and better expandability on the web server vs. the antivirus server.

After discussing the stand alone servers Bob explained what VMWare is and how it might be a viable option for UWStudent resources. VMWare is a way of placing multiple virtual servers on one large server. By using VMWare you can maximize the resources of the 'box' to best fit the server needs. If it is discovered that one server needs more memory or CPU resources they could be reallocated from other VMWare instances to increase performance.

Bob explained that while the server proposed now will only house a couple of functions, future servers could possibly be placed on the VMWare server purchased in the summer of 2007.

Marcus asked for the strategy on the redundancy with VMWare servers. Bob explained there was a lot of redundancy built in.

Mark Sunderman asked what the annual cost of the VMWare license would be. Bob did not know the answer but would look it up and provide it to Maggie for distribution to the committee via email.

Jesse asked why existing development instances in IT could not be used by UWStudent Lab Administration to evaluate VMWare. Bob explained they needed their own dedicated instance to perform an adequate evaluation.

Jesse asked if there were personnel resources within TSS that would have time to examine the VMWare services while at the same time completing all of the other

identified projects and working on the new remote lab system that was funded by the legislature. Bob indicated that he believed they had the needed resources.

Mark Sunderman expressed concerns regarding the needed resources to examine VMWare. He stated he had no problems with expending the money, but did not want to purchase VMWare and have it sit idle in a box because there is not enough man power to research the product in a timely fashion. Bob indicated that he felt there were adequate resources in TSS to be able to examine VMWare and complete the other projects. Bob said that if Telecommunications & System Services does not complete the research, Information Technology will purchase the test license from the CSTC.

Warrie Means moved to approve the initial expense of \$7510 for the development license for VMWare and to earmark the additional \$42,500 for the purpose of either purchasing a full production instance of VMWare or individual servers for the web server and antivirus server.

Mark Sunderman seconded the motion

Approved: all
Opposed: none
Abstain: none

3. AG Lab funding review

Maggie explained that the college of AG student fee committee has approved funding to upgrade computer equipment in AB 269. The role of the CSTC is to provide approval of the funding based on verification that the equipment is for student use.

Mark Sunderman moved to approve the AG funding
Graham Mitchell seconded the motion

Approved: all, excluding Jim Ward
Opposed: none
Abstain: Jim Ward

4. Library expansion

Maggie explained that the library currently has 8 computers that used to reside in the Science library and are currently sitting un-used. The library is willing to deploy the computers for student use but there is currently not any available infrastructure, specifically data. Maggie asked the committee if they would like to explore funding the needed infrastructure to expand the number of available nodes in Coe library.

The committee voiced support for getting cost estimates to provide the infrastructure.

Later in the meeting the committee discussed approving funding up to a specific amount to proceed with the work.

Mark Sunderman moved to approve up to \$3000 to provide network for the 8 additional computers. If the cost is higher, approval will be sought through email.

Warrie Means seconded the motion

Approved: all
Opposed: none
Abstain: none

5. Notice of Lab Assistant staffing charges

Maggie explained that Information Technology is raising the base rate of Lab Assistant staffing from \$5.50 an hour to \$6.00 an hour. The cost increase to the CSTC will be \$3872 per year for a total of \$50,861 per year. The increase will go into effect on July 1, 2007.

Maggie explained that this increased cost information will be shared with the colleges in the near future.

The CSTC will vote on the FY 2008 staffing in the spring semester along with other required funding allotments.

6. Hoblink maintenance

Maggie explained that we have obtained a quote for expanding the Hoblink maintenance for an additional year. The cost would be \$1595 and would extend maintenance until July 1, 2008.

Jim Ward moved to approve \$1595 for Hoblink maintenance
Warrie Means seconded the motion

Approved: all
Opposed: none
Abstain: none

7. Print Quota increase proposal

Maggie explained that Information Technology is currently working on implementing a utility that would allow users to increase their print quota by agreeing to have the charge attached to their university bill. The plan is to pilot the project with the Law students the remainder of the fall semester and through the spring semester. If all goes well it could be implemented for all of campus either over the summer or fall of 2007.

The committee voiced their approval and support of the change.

The next meeting will be held in February 2007.

Maggie adjourned the meeting at 4:55 pm