Information Technology Committee

March 5, 2010 1:00 PM, Burritt Library Classroom, 3rd Floor
Meeting Minutes

Present: Herman, Brodeur, Iglesias, Menoche, Mamed, Burkholder, Blitz, Washko, Labeled, Saha, Snyder, Rudzinski, Kara-Soteriou, Hyatt, Jones, Todd

I. Meeting called to order 1:02

II. Minutes of the February 5, 2010 meeting were approved with amendment (removal of reference to “IDTRC” in header).

III. Announcements

Herman announced forthcoming new library web site and is looking for volunteers to test usability. Up to six people, ideally a mix of students and faculty, are welcome for this initial testing. Testing to be conducted Thursday March 11 and Friday March 12, flexible hours, and volunteers will receive a $5.00 Blue Chip card.

Blitz, as an alternate to WordPress, is researching Fantastico as a possible content management system and will distribute findings and feedback to the committee.

IV. Old Business

PC/Mac Classroom committee update – Herman announced the members of the committee – Herman, Labeled, Washko, Waite, Kjell, Werblow, and Snyder. The committee will conduct a needs assessment survey. Survey will go out in two versions, one to users who have already requested the labs and one to all faculty. Washko noted that there are currently 14 fully computerized classrooms available for use by faculty. This figure does not include computerized classrooms dedicated to specific schools or departments (i.e., School of Technology). Burkholder noted that the size of the classrooms is an issue and room space should not go unused if possible. For instance, a class of 18 students should not be placed in a classroom with 40 computers, if possible. Washko noted that one of the options raised, the use of portable laptops, is not practical due not only to security issues but also the need to keep the laptops charged and updated. In response to the need for the availability of PC and Mac classrooms, Burkholder suggested that new swing space computer classrooms by equipped with dual boot Macs. Blitz expects that within a few years most students will have some type of portable computing device, and although these portable devices have their own issues, specifically power and printing capabilities, these rooms should be created with that in mind. Burkholder noted that the reason behind requests for specific rooms may be due to the availability of specific software in specific rooms. Burkholder further noted that there will continue to be a demand for these types of classrooms, but moving forward the rooms need to be highly configurable and re-evaluated regularly in light of the student use of portable devises. Herman anticipates that all new swing space computer rooms will be very configurable. Menoche asked about tech support for these classrooms. Washko replied that ITS will maintain and support the computer equipment in all new computer classrooms as
usual, as long as the rooms are equipped with desktop computers, not laptops. **Herman** will continue to provide updates to the committee.

Online/Hybrid subcommittee – **Blitz** noted that the subcommittee circulated an interim report but needs to meet to discuss. **Blitz** stated that article of the AAUP collective bargaining agreement dealing with distance learning is outdated and will be reviewed at the next subcommittee meeting. **Blitz** highlighted six key issues that have been identified by the subcommittee and which should be addressed in the collective bargaining agreement – intellectual ownership, one time sharing of material and content to cover emergencies, reuse of material and content, tech support for online courses, compensation, and approval of online courses. Much discussion ensued, mostly around intellectual property and copyright issues. **Blitz** requested input on the compensation issue. **Herman** asked what the next steps would be. **Blitz** will forward a copy of the appropriate article to the subcommittee by March 9 for review and input, and will, based on responses, send a draft of suggested revisions to the Provost and in turn to the Senate by early April in time for the upcoming agenda.

V. New Business
   There was no new business.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Tom Brodeur