

# IT Advisory Committee Minutes

September 18, 2006  
Schar 138 (Lecture Hall)

**Present:** John Sikula, Beverly Heimann, Dave Lifer, Jim Kirtland, Pat Edwards, Curtis White, Vickie Taylor and Dreama Knight

**August Minutes-** Curtis asked Dreama to type all meeting comments in bold. Motion to approve-John Sikula, Second-Dave Lifer. Minutes Approved

## Carryover Agenda Items/Updates

### IT Staffing Updates

Positions Filled:

- Student worker Jeremy Bennington will be a temporary staff. He will be covering desktop support for possibly 1 month.

Active Interviews and Recommendations: NTR

- Currently interviewing for the Technology Training Specialist. One candidate has been invited back, but due to a family emergency he had to reschedule for next week. This position should be filled in October. **Dave Lifer asked what happened to Jennifer Walton. Curtis explained that she was offered a position in the Stark school system and departed this summer. Deans and Chairs were informed of her departure**
- Director, Instructional Support position now opened. Randy Spears will be leaving for a position with OSU (family in the Columbus area and life-long dream to work for OSU). This is a lateral move for Randy. Beverly Heimann will serve on the interview committee. Candidates will come in for interviews. Strong candidates will be asked back for a second interview conducting a classroom with selected faculty to attend.

#### Positions Posted:

- The Programmer Analyst position previously held by Larry Norris is now posted. IT is looking for someone more on the junior level and will invest in training. The Higher Ed posting only generated one candidate. Will post in several local papers.

#### Positions Pending

- Systems Management Analyst position held by Sandi Carpenter will be posted later this semester. This position will be compliment the position held by David McCumber (MS environment experience).

#### Grant Initiatives-NTR

### **Projects/Initiatives/Updates**

- The Programmer Analyst position previously held by Larry Norris is now posted. IT is looking for someone more on the junior level and will invest in training. The Higher Ed posting only generated one candidate. Will post in several local papers.

#### Positions Pending

- Systems Management Analyst position held by Sandi Carpenter will be posted later this semester. This position will be compliment the position held by David McCumber (MS environment experience).
- TIAA Updates- this allows AU faculty/staff to have more investment choices in planning for retirement. Tests are going well and may be rolled out in September.
- Dauch Technology Maintenance and Ridenour Wall Options- Curtis is looking at two proposals, but wanting more specifics.
- Blackboard and Desire2Learn litigation- Blackboard sued Desire2Learn over copy rights of the learning management system.

- Growth in WebCT, Web Conferencing and Vidoconferencing courses.
  - Web CT-Curtis added a chart in his Board of Trustees materials showing the growth over the past two years from 20 online courses to now over 100. There is a growing interest in this course management system.
  - Web Conferencing- Currently have a 1 year contract with Horizon Wimba for live classrooms. **Vickie Taylor asked if it was possible to have a demonstration. Curtis stated that 3 companies had been tested. Pat Edwards asked the cost of Wimba. Curtis said that the cost is \$20,000.00 a year and is hosted off site so there is no bandwidth issue. WebCT is \$28,000.00 a year and must have a server and database that AU maintains.**
- Briefing to the Board of Trustees- Dr. Finks asked all cabinet members to refine their briefing. The IT report has specific focus areas (since Jan 2006) - January focuses on competitive analysis and benchmarking, May focuses on strategic planning, October focuses on staffing and funding.

## Committees and Subcommittees

Student Computer Initiative – Currently on hold. More students are bringing their own systems.

IT Strategic Planning – Update later in the semester. Revising plan.

Software Coordinating Committee – Brian with IT and faculty are working together to discuss software for classrooms.

Data Standards Committee – This committee makes sure that data is entered the same throughout the system. More data becoming shared with all entries the same campus wide.

Microsoft Implementation Team- Engaging AU community before making the switch.

Security Standards and Policy Review – Title change to Director of Security Networking for Kurt Eckert. **John Sikula thought that Kurt left AU. Curtis explained that Kent State is a complex organization and that Kurt's position was Federal/State regulated which required new responsibilities with little authority. This was not a career enhancing move for him. Curtis added that IT is very marketable and keeping staff for another couple of years will benefit AU.**

## **Discussion Items**

**John Sikula stated that everything is up and running in the new COE building. Curtis added that there are still some adjustments with the airliners that need to be made in the lecture hall due to the fact that because there are so many in the building causes interference.**

**Curtis added that Kettering up and running had some problems with WRDL interference with the speaker system but problem seemed to subside. There were some security issues with no locks on Kettering doors.**

**Pat Edwards stated that it's a real pleasure working in COE. The lighting is fabulous with no glare.**

**Curtis stated that there has been about 400 students check out the MS software and about the same amount with the antivirus Trend. Cisco Clean Access will be required to use network and that for a price/month Cdigix is available to faculty. To download onto a MP3 is illegal.**

**Pat Edwards asked if Randy's replacement will be iPod and Mac skilled. Curtis stated that he must go with the majority of skills needed for AU. The new hire could be trained but he wouldn't base his search on Mac/iPod experieice.**

**David Lifer asked if MS office is available for an undergrad student only taking 6 hours. Curtis explained that under the licenses a student must be a full time undergraduate. Curtis would have to verify with MS how to work out logistics with folks**

**outside the university. IT hopes to have MS Office available to a larger student population next academic year.**

**Vickie asked if there was academic pricing in the bookstore. Curtis said that he did not believe the Bookstore handled any software that was not bundled with a textbook Vickie has access to a website that offers academic software pricing. Curtis added that we must be very careful with licensing.**

**Vickie reported that the classrooms in the Detroit Center now have new technology installed by MI. Vickie did all the training. She mentioned that the new Elmo's are very powerful. Curtis added that the Samsungs are great and very powerful. Some faculty in Kettering are using up their network space (H-Drive) because they are capturing experiments with video clips and putting them on their website. Disk space is a problem, but it is a good one to have.**

**Curtis is still looking for a student representative. He will go to the next Student Senate meeting begging for a representative.**

**Curtis mentioned last Monday AU hosted the OFIC Chief Information Officer meeting. Twelve schools were represented. The group were very impressed with the campus and technology.**

**John Sikula motioned to adjourn, Vickie moved. Meeting adjourned.**