I Introductions

- Steven Brewer
- MJ Canavan
- Ian Walls
- Michelle Rosenfield
- Ernie May
- Julie Buehler
- Nikki Stoia

II Leadership

- Co-Chairs: Brewer and Canavan
- Secretary: Walls

III Charge

The Information and Communication Technology Council shall review and make recommendations with respect to campus infrastructure, policies, planning, and priorities related to information and communication technologies.

History

previous committee structure, rebuild now that we have a new CIO. New structure approved by faculty senate. Committee -> Council. Changed number of seats (over 35 w/students), members at large with an eye towards integrating both early and mid adopters. Seats appointed by the deans, as well.

Getting undergraduates is challenging; perhaps we need to seek them out.

Question to CIO

what structure of input do you want from this group? Idea was a roundtable bringing all the players into the same room.

Response from CIO

No such thing as one representative committee of what faculty need, so we need multiple mechanisms for providing feedback. Need help considering the best mechanisms. The goal is to work strategically: what are faculty trying to do? Then IT can be a strategic enabler, or maybe even innovator. Using IT as a means of connecting people that wouldn’t necessarily come into a room together otherwise.
IV Meeting Schedule

Canavan will send out Doodle poll to determine what works. Tuesday’s not working so well. Some possible times:
- Later on Tuesdays (1:15p)
- Thursdays 1:15p
- Early mornings (8:30a) - not M,W. Tuesday good, Thursday less so
- Friday 12:20p

Duration: allot 1.5 hrs

Frequency: monthly for major committee, break down to subcommittees to meet more frequently

For subcommittees, need to look at Strategic Plan after having large group meetings and see what groups need to break out.

V Membership

Contacting undergraduates: who to talk to? Student Govt. needs to make nominations. Should see these nominations in the next 2-3 weeks; students get credit for this work.

Grad student seats are filled.

Mailing list is still ucec-l; Anne will get folks onto it. CIO would like to include Heidi Dollard and Chris Misra on list.

IV Announcements

From Faculty Senate Rules Committee
Next faculty senate meeting will include a presentation by CESD to put all Senate functions online. This online tool is built on a gen-ed website system developed previously here. Beta testing with Gen Ed Council, Academic Matters Council and Writing Committee.

From CIO
- Issues in Honors College and cell coverage (OIT was made aware of the issues and engaged AT&T and Verizon to improve their coverage areas). An action plan is in place to improve service, but progress may take about 90 days, since it involves physical building plans
- Looking at potential of High Performance Computing Center. Working with Mike Malone and others. Need to identify faculty members who have interesting use cases
• Transparency of who is in OIT and what do they do? OIT is going to include brief biographical statements and photos of IT leaders on their webpages as one improvement (coming soon).

VII Old Business

Campus LMS
The question was asked if Moodle is being phased out as a strategy. The response is that this is a rumor and no such strategy exists at this time. Moodle is currently the primary on-site LMS and Blackboard is the LMS for UMass Online. Will there ever be a good reason to allow an exception from the primary systems? Yes, that comes up in this complex of a campus. But we want to avoid 50 exceptions. The Deans are working with Carol Barr from the Provost’s Office on select exceptions for faculty as needed. Strategy: try pilots, then collect feedback.

UMass system has lots of investment in Blackboard, but might be investigating Moodle as well. The Blackboard organization has restructured in the last few years, with a new advisory council.

Email/Calendaring
Initial message that all faculty/staff/grad students moving to Exchange, then some indication that Google may also be an option.

Some folks can go to Google, others need to be evaluated more thoroughly. Need to determine who should be given a choice. Licensing with Exchange may be an issue. More info will be had by next meeting. Chris Misra will be prepared to come to an upcoming meeting to provide a status on this initiative.

Can campus agreement with Google be made public? Hopefully yes. Only one agreement is allowed per campus.

VIII New Business

• **Communication around issues** should be tiered: what do we expect, how did that go, what’s our fallback? Use of blackout days for technical changes quickly leads to a blacked out calendar, so must prioritize. Bring in Iris to talk about multi-prong solutions to getting information out in better ways. Bring along inventory of what tools we already have, then find the gap and fulfill. Push out notes informally through multiple channels, rather than using designed newsletters.

• Motion on **UMass homepage** is a bit too much for folks. No clear mechanisms for feedback. CIO asks Steve to send email to her and John Kennedy (Public Relations) to kickstart conversation.

• **UMass Drupal users group** wants to share best practices.

• School of Management has **mandated MS Windows**; faculty not allowed to get Macs.
• **NE Regional Developers Summit** (once DrupalCamp) talking about growing up and broadening their scope, later in the Spring.

• **Problems in new buildings**: Secure 1-X doesn’t allow broadcast traffic, so brought-in computers cannot access in-room resources equally.

• **Mailing list services**: where will they go once UMail goes away? Want to keep archive feature. CIO will investigate and report back.

• **Centralized backup**: proposal floated by administration late in Spring to do this. Faculty have fragmented practices around their data. Discussion of tiers of data; scrap notes shouldn’t be treated the same way as student medical info.

• **Telecom**: replacing landlines with VOIP and/or wireless.

• **Unlearning institutional history**: get people to reevaluate some of the opinions they formed a long time ago, since change occurs often with technology and new opportunities may be available as a result of recent developments.