

## Computing Advisory Committee Meeting 08/25/2011

**Attending:** Dan Stover (Chair), Tom Harbert, David Carlson, Garth Crosby, Tom Imboden from ISAT, Jim Nelson, Don Laur, Kemal Akkaya.

**Absent:** Tonny Oyana, Jason Phillips.

Meeting started at 3:30 PM.

Tom Imboden from ISAT was introduced. Tom then discussed the merits of including ISAT in the CAC. He indicated that IST and EST would be the two departments that would be most likely to be useful to the CAC. IST is one of the first programs offered completely online. Many contacts with big companies. Large military population comes to ISAT. It seems that there are a variety of reasons why ISAT should be included. It was also discussed that the Constitution indicates that the Chancellor, the Provost, and the VC for Admin and Finance should be consulted on this.

Tom was asked to step outside while everything was discussed. Several issues were discussed, including the issue that the CAC Constitution might be outdated. Issues regarding which constituencies are included were discussed. No one was opposed but there were issues that we discussed. We discussed some issues regarding security, Chet Langin (new security officer), and how that it would be good to have Tom involved when Chet gives a presentation at a later date. Dan discussed the concept of a Beowulf machine, which is a cluster of low-cost computers that can function as a parallel processing machine and can use all its combined processing power and storage and how the ISAT department might be a good place for this to be built using cast-off computers from on campus. A motion was made by Tom Harbert to include ISAT and was seconded by Garth Crosby. The vote was unanimous to include ISAT. Dan indicated that he would follow up with the Chancellor, the Provost, and the VC for Admin. and Finance to get their opinions on this.

Dan indicated that he had discussed with John Nicklow the concept that the CAC should be involved in the front-end analysis of information technology projects. John stated that he would leave this up to the new Chief Information Officer (CIO). Dan indicated that he brought up the issue of maybe having the CIO being a voting member of the CAC, indicating that having the CIO be a voting member of the CAC might develop a sense of belonging and ownership and possibly allow the CIO to become more comfortable with advice coming with the CAC. An issue that was brought up was that, when we only give advice after the project is in motion, then our advice does not really mean much. It was stated that currently we are more reporting and investigative than an actual advising committee.

Dan had indicated in a previous email that he would entertain others who would like to be chairman. It was decided that Dan would stay on as committee chairman.

Dan welcomed both Don Laur and Jim Nelson as new members of the CAC. Don mentioned that there is a Social Media Working Group that was previously formed during his previous tenure on the CAC. Dan

asked if the group was consulting with Lippmann-Hearns (branding/marketing consulting agency) in regard to the social media stance of SIU. Don mentioned that possibly Tamara Cook might be involved with them. A discussion developed about the new marketing/branding strategy and the new Content Management System (CMS). Dan discussed the benefits of the new Cascade CMS, which was to make easier the inclusion of fresh content and to standardize the interface. Dan discussed the previous method of using a lot of code at the beginning of each web page (at least at the Budget Office) to implement the look and feel. Dan discussed how he changed things to be updateable look and feel in about 15 minutes and indicated that the CMS would have similar capabilities.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.