

LMIS Meeting Minutes – 26 January 2011

In Attendance: Alyce DeMarais, Tim Hoyt, Pierre Ly, William Morse, Mark Reinitz, Cindy Riche, Jason Sawin, Jeff Tepper, Ariela Tubert

Mark called the meeting to order and the minutes of the 30 November 2010 meeting were approved.

Mark, Jason, and Jeff briefly discussed with Cindy and William concerns regarding recent responses from the Technology Services Help Desk. Cindy and William thanked them for the input and reiterated Technology Services' commitment to prompt responses.

SoundNet. Cindy gave a brief overview of SoundNet, the new campus intranet. The LMIS Committee now has a SoundNet page and Cindy will migrate the LMIS material currently on Wiki to this new page in the coming weeks. She will also present a more comprehensive introduction to SoundNet at the next LMIS meeting.

ERP Selection Process. William provided an update on the ERP selection process. The university completed its "Readiness Assessment" in the fall; the results are posted on the web and indicate we are in "pretty good shape". Collegiate Enterprises, the consultants assisting with the vendor selection process, made some suggestions, which are currently being implemented. Faculty were reminded that they are invited to participate in the process through the DecisionDirector (accessed through an e-mail link). All results will be incorporated into the RFP and sent to potential vendors. The goal is to have the product chosen by June and implemented by September.

Jason asked how the ERP packages will interface with SharePoint. William responded that this varies from vendor to vendor and will be among the criteria used to choose the most suitable ERP for us.

Virtual Desktops. William summarized how UPS servers are configured to ensure uninterrupted service in the event of a power failure or other breakdown. He also explained the benefits of the coming virtual desktop system, which will make it simpler to operate computer labs (eliminating the need to install software in every individual machine), reduce the risk of viruses, provide a means of backing up faculty and student work, and allow desktop computers to be replaced by more economical Thin Clients. Jason noted that there will be situations in which faculty will need or want to have content on a laptop or other system that is not virtual.

Print Management. Technology Services currently has a server that is keeping track of printing by user; these data will be used in the future when setting allotments. Pierre suggested polling faculty about their current course printing requirements (lab manuals, readings, etc.). Alyce suggested one way to reduce printing would be to have more course packets. It will not be practical to have different printing limits for students taking different courses. William noted that one of the main goals of print management is to reduce excessive printing by the small number (~5%) of students who account for a disproportionate amount of the total pages.

The next LMIS meeting will be held on February 23rd

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Tepper