

IT Manager's Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2014

DIGITAL SIGNAGE

Jane Combs and Jeremy Martin presented their digital signage plan. They have formed a steering committee to identify an enterprise-wide digital signage solution. Campus Services sent out an RFP almost two years ago and selected Four Winds as the winning vendor. They've committed to 21 signs in TUC and Rec center. We've noticed that there are smaller installations around campus. A considerable amount of money has already been spent interfacing Four Winds with our current systems like 25Live and the emergency messaging system. We are looking to create a shared services solution, so if any departments are looking to install digital signage, purchasing will automatically send them to the Digital Signage steering committee. This fits under IT Governance structure and we look at that as an opportunity to make this plan actionable.

It would be ideal to have the university pay for the licensing costs, but as an alternative we can take what Campus Services has already invested in individual licenses and put it towards an Enterprise level license along with other groups that might already be considering digital signage. There is currently a gap of \$86,000 to meet qualifications for this. Beyond that, the people that come in later on the Enterprise license would share the maintenance costs. The committee has been looking at ways to build equitable cost sharing incentives. Everyone in the room expressed interest in utilizing the product, preferably as an enterprise-wide offering. Jane will discuss funding the licensing costs with Shared services and Core infrastructure. Otherwise, the deadline for crediting individual licenses towards an enterprise license is Nov. 30th, after which the discount drops from 75% to 50%.

IT@UC COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION

Mary Adams has been working with UCIT on its transformation and is a co-lead on committee with Mark Faulkner on Strategic Planning (IT@UC). The IT@UC committee has been visiting colleges and documenting the feedback. This feedback is presented in a spreadsheet matrix. A strong theme has been communication and ongoing engagement. Mary invited all members to review the needs reported by their college and respond with any changes or additions. Most of the colleges have been interviewed and the goal is for the committee to wrap up by April and present its findings to the IT Council and make recommendations.

Goals for April are to

- 1.) Bring the spreadsheet to life in a better way for IT Council
- 2.) Form a sub-committee to design ongoing engagement for University use
- 3.) Address your feedback with improvements

Mary then collected post-it notes from the group with their recommendations about what's most important and urgent to improve communications, along with volunteers for contribution to the subcommittee. Megan with the College of Engineering was highlighted as having a very successful communication model, and was invited to share her success stories with the group. She believes Associate Deans and Department heads were key players in ensuring responses.

STATISTICAL SOFTWARE OVERVIEW

Tony Quallen presented a slideshow about his department and the processes for renewing software licenses. He sends updates about software versions via listserves, which can be subscribed to on the UCIT page, under software offerings.

REVIEW OF PAST ACTION ITEMS

Eric is leading a subcommittee to develop desktop standards for Dell computers to run UC enterprise applications. They have met twice to brainstorm a list of enterprise apps and build a matrix of each's requirements. They should have some results by next meeting.

The Dell contract was finally updated. The Purchasing department owns the contract but Dom is serving in an advisory role. He wants to encourage a quarterly check in with Dell to review offerings and prices more diligently.

Don will send out the RoundTower report. The takeaway is that we have a need for affordable general purpose storage.

Chris Edwards reported on Blackboard Collaborate and its rocky first start. Many of the issues have been resolved and its implementation is being "rebooted".

ACTION ITEMS

- Jane will discuss funding the licensing costs with Shared services and Core infrastructure.
- All members to review the needs reported by their college and respond with any changes or additions.
- Tony to send out his slides
- Don will send out the RoundTower report.