Research & Development Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, January 9, 2018
Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Location: University Hall, Room 420


Apologies: Adam Chekour, Abdul Aziz Bahha, CJ Kim, Kurt Roberts

1. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes
   • Phil Taylor moved to accept the minutes with Chris Collins’ changes; Annette Ready seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. IT Foundational Infrastructure Capital Funding Update (Bruce Burton)
   • Approved by board for significant foundational infrastructure upgrade to include wireless access points, phones, and network switches will be replaced. Project will start with network switches.
   • Have been meeting to determine schedule and announcements will be sent in the next two weeks.
   • Will start in HPB in early February and next will be buildings out of CCM node.
   • Upgrades will start at 4:00 AM and finish by 8:00 AM to minimize impact on classroom buildings.
   • Will send notices three (3) weeks in advance of upgrades to specific locations to inform building managers and faculty of the upgrades.
   • Will upgrades affect classes that start at 8:00 AM? Network Operation Center (NOC) does not expect impact but users can contact NOC to ask for earlier start time.
   • Upgrade of network switches will be completed in December 2018. Other upgrades will run in parallel but will be staggered. Phones are being converted to VOIP and will receive power from network switches. Wireless and phone upgrades expect to be complete within two years.
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    • NOC is working with P+D+C to upgrade all network closets, HVAC, and electrical upgrades to accommodate new uninterruptable power source (UPS). UPS will be transitional power for generator switchover for monthly tests.
• Approximately 4800 wireless access points will be updated to support 802.C for higher bandwidth and throughput.
• Estimated cost for all upgrades is approximately 23 million dollars.
• The new switches will have 1 GB to the desktop with POE (power over Ethernet).
• UCIT will have a website with work schedule posted soon.
• Project will have no impact on UCScienceNet.
• Reading campus (old GRI), UCRI, Victory Parkway, UCCC phone system (not network) is included in the upgrade. UCBA will not be included.
• IT@UC Governance Committee, Core Services and Shared Infrastructure, performed a campus-wide survey and 95% of campus users want a desk phone. You can request a desktop client instead of a phone.

3. **Strategic Priorities and IT Research Technologies & Services Survey**

   • Is committee aware of UCIT strategic priorities? Research needs across campus is one of UCIT strategic goals for 2018. The survey is part of meeting this goal. The survey in Qualtrics.
   • Current state of survey is 35 questions, approx. 9 minutes to complete. Survey has 4 sections. Created survey from input from Educause, research computing community, U of Minnesota, and UC Libraries survey. U of Minnesota offered gift certificates drawings for participants.
   • Brett Harnett, Michal Kouril and the RTAG subcommittee provided feedback for the survey and it has been incorporated.
   • Jane Combs will try to send a preview link to the R&D committee and send it to Prashant Khare, Asst Professor CEAS-Aerospace Eng & Eng Mech, for feedback.
   • RTAG recommended to send the survey to specific targets and possibly have focus groups. Phil Taylor will send Jane a list of 700 currently funded research faulty. Jane will include new faculty orientation list as well.
   • Survey will help UCIT determine what services should be offered.

4. **Research Technical Advisory Group Update** (Brett Kottmann)

   • No update, committee did not meet in December. Will meet again on Jan 18. They will review the survey.
   • **Brett K. will provide an explanation of UCScienceNet in the next R&D meeting.**

5. **HPC Update** (Brett Harnett)

   • Working with CCHMC to see if UC can partner with them but there are tactical issues that may make it impossible. UC needs a solution. The problem is how to pay for it. UC needs to find sustainable funding as well as startup costs.
   • Power and cooling is one of the cost factors that prevents UC from having an HPC center.
   • Jane and Brett H. are evaluating a solution from AWS but it would not have any support.
   • HADOOP is used by many researchers on campus because it is flexible and works well with very large data sets. These users
would benefit greatly from having access to a central, public use (shared) HPC.

- Phil is contacting the Educational Advisory Board to request information about what other universities are doing to address HPC issues for new ideas.
- Jane and Phil are working with Prashant Khare on the HPC issue to make something happen for UC this year.

6. **Provost Universal Provide Award for Faculty Development** (Jane Combs)

- Libraries and UCIT R&D put together two proposals. They combined both proposals and were awarded $12k for a data symposium/speaker series for faculty training. An announcement will go out to faculty in February. Speakers are tentatively scheduled for March 2018. Jane will invite some speakers from Super Computing Conference held at Wright Patterson in March. Phil suggested Jane collaborate with Pat Reed from Office of Research regarding the symposium/speaker series.

7. **Other Updates**

- **Office of Research Strategic Plan** (see attached)
  - Not really a strategic plan but is more the direction they are going.
  - 1st page:
    - Top info graphic for FY 2017 is just UC funding (not CCHMC). They are mostly small awards.
    - Middle info graphic shows over the years funding is improving and moving in the right direction (does not include UCRI numbers)
    - Bottom info graphic—Higher education Research Survey (HERD) – 300 Universities respond. Presidents’ goal is to be in the mid-20s in the public institution rankings. Lower rankings are better.
  - Phil has access to the Tableau dashboard if anyone is interested in seeing it.
  - Office of Research is looking for a new system to replace COEUS and possibly Tableau.
  - Office of Research wants to improve success rates for obtaining cross-disciplinary team awards. Success rate now is ~10%.
  - Hope to increase proposals sent to Department of Defense (DoD).
  - From Goals/Strategic/Metrics (FY 18) Taylor page: Goals 3 & 4 are what this committee needs to focus on.
  - Phil distributed a Research Expenditures for Public Peer Cohort 2016 handout. Phil will provide the updated chart for 2017 in the December R&D committee meeting.

- **Brett Harnett will send the dates to the R&D Committee for the Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training**
Adjourn

- Committee adjourned at 2:24 PM.