Committee on Academic Technology

Minutes – March 23, 2012

In attendance: Lesley Boaz, Michael Class, S.J., Steven Crane, Scott D’Urso, Steven DeLonge, Kathy Lang, Patrick Loftis, Shaun Longstreet, Gary Meyer, Michelle Mynlieff, George Corliss, Jon Pray, Heidi Schweizer, and Tom Wirtz

Excused: Charles Beckwirth, Bruce Boyden, Laura Matthew, Barrett McCormick, and Janice Welburn

I. Call to Order

Reflection: Steven DeLonge

Minutes from 1/27/11 unanimously approved without corrections.

II. Continuing Business

Update on Clickers

Jon Pray provided an update regarding clickers. i-clicker now is feature-rich (interfaces with D2L, able to administer alpha tests in addition to multiple choice tests, web-apps are available).

Questions were raised regarding the cost and labor involved to switch from e-instruction to i-clicker. The transition from a “PowerPoint” based format is easy. The transition from the proprietary e-instruction format is more labor intensive. Jon will check to see if a conversion utility is available from the i-clicker vendor. Gary Meyer indicated that the Provost’s office could provide support to help faculty in conversion, if it is needed.

Jon will also look into hosting an information session to present the i-clicker system.

III. Subcommittee Reports:

Hardware/software Subcommittee – Scott D’Urso – The subcommittee continues to collect information from faculty on best teaching practices with technology. A focus group with students will be held in the near future.

E-text Book Subcommittee – Jon Pray – The subcommittee is surveying students and faculty this semester to determine use of e-text books. They are considering a possible pilot area to use e-text books. It would be nice to conduct research on the outcomes of retention and learning for e-books, but no formal research project is planned.

Cloud Subcommittee – Kathy Lang – Mike Class reported on some of the findings from the faculty technology survey. The focus of the drill down review was D2L use. Overall, the results indicate that while D2L is used in many courses, there are many features in D2L that are minimally used across campus.

IV. Annual Report

Gary Meyer and Mike Class need to prepare an annual report for the Provost and Academic Senate. Sub-Committee chairs should forward a summary of activities, meeting dates, and future plans by April 27 for inclusion in the final report.
V. New Business

Digital Marquette
Several Marquette faculty, staff, and administrators have started a forum called “Digital Marquette”. The group is still defining its goals and purpose. They are using a listserv to communicate.

Computer Vendor Selection and CRP
Kathy Lang reported that two vendors remain in a process to select the next vendor for university computers.

She also reported that for FY2012-13, ITS received one half the requested funding for CRP. Several members expressed interest in preparing a letter for budget planning to express our concerns of underfunding CRP for several years.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Wirtz