

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
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Office of the Academic Senate
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February 12, 2007

Members Present: O. Benavides (Chair), B. Auernheimer,
E. Nelson, R. Parker, D. Martin, M. Yousef,
J. Cagle, D. Nef, K. Moffitt.

Members Absent: R. Stathum (Student).

Visitors: M. Bach, T. Siechert.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Benavides at 1:10 p.m. in the Education Building room # 316.

1. MSC to approve the Agenda as amended to include "Blackboard Update Report" as item # 3 and re-number proceeding items accordingly.

2. Communications and Announcements.

R. Porter suggested that members look at the Laptop recommendations article in Daily Collegian.

3. Blackboard Updates Report.

Pod casting: We are not using iTunes in Blackboard as reported in the Fresno Bee. Several faculty are interested in pod casting. We are going to have to do something about transcripts for pod casting—all audio currently.

Chancellor's Office just extended the Blackboard and WebCT contracts to July and said they are working to extend the contract for two years after that. Some performance problems are being worked on. Thursday night upgrades are supposed to solve the database problems. Users should detect no differences.

Incompatibility problems with Internet Explorer and Blackboard were discussed.

4. ATI Updates and Discussion.

Accessibility project is evolving in accord with the Chancellor's guidelines. Three teams have been formed to work on the areas:

T. Siechert is heading the Procurement Team which is responsible for developing the plan for the campus to achieve ADA 508 compliance for electronic and information technology (E&IT) purchases.

The first big campus deadline is the implementation of ADA 508 compliance requirements for any formal bids issued by the campus. This deadline is September 1, 2007. Implementation for this type of procurement does not seem to present many challenges from Procurement's perspective.

Previously, the next campus deadline (September 1, 2008) was to address 508 compliance for all purchases, regardless of dollar amount (but excluding Procurement cards transactions). Tom was able to lobby Mary Cheng to have this deadline modified to only include purchases >\$5,000 (purchases made with Procurement card still to be excluded). This change was supposed to be incorporated into a revised coded memorandum issued by the CO, but has not yet been issued.

The last deadline was December 1, 2009, at which point the CO would set a future date for implementation of Procard purchases and those <\$5,000.

The establishment of a personal use exemption, where there would not ever be any anticipated public use for the E&IT being procured, is still being studied.

Ongoing discussions by the Procurement working group include determining who will be responsible for signing off on all E&IT purchases, signifying that this person has reviewed attached documentation and can certify ADA compliance, for each and every such procurement.

Brent is on another team on the Web. The Chancellor's Office has acquired a program to crawl around the campus websites and look for pages out of compliance. Java scripts cannot be used for any of the menus on the web pages.

Otto is on the third team having to do with Instructional Materials and Procedures. One issue has to do with the lead time for

ordering textbooks in order to make accommodations for various disabilities. PowerPoint slides, for example, need to have text alternatives to visual materials; disability text readers cannot read the PowerPoint file formats, but can read PDF versions. Audio and video files must have alternative text versions.

A CSU revised “coded memorandum” with updated information is being prepared and will be forwarded to members of the AIT Committee.

5. Discussion of the Academic Transformation Plan.

Dr. Tom Carey of the Chancellor's Office will join us via Elluminate to make a present the Academic Transformation plan, to lead a short discussion and to answer questions. He is the Chief Learning Officer in charge of MERLOT in the Chancellor's Office. He is tasked with the Academic Transformation Plan.

Using Elluminate, a connection was made for a teleconference on the plan and on what's ahead to do. From time to time, he paused to allow questions and answers to clarify understanding. [A copy of the PowerPoint slides may be obtained from Otto Benavides.]

MSC to adjourn (2:30 p.m.)

The next scheduled meeting of the Academic Information Technology Committee (AIT) will be Monday, 2/26/07 at 1:00 p.m. in the Education Building room # 316. An agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting.