Year Summary Report for FTAC 2014/2015 Academic Year

Key Items of Progress

* A new updated website was created for FTAC. This website has all information regarding technology policies, FTAC membership, Grant applications and awards and meeting minutes. The location is blogs.adams.edu/ftac
* The Faculty Resources website was updated to include a few additional links to vital faculty resources like FTAC and IRB.
* FTAC worked to develop a priorities list. Of primary concern was requesting Degree Works for the campus. FTAC agreed that too many mistakes occur in the advising process when we are required to calculate student progress and degree checks by hand. Because this was a priority for STAC and ATAC, IT Governance put in a budget request for Degree Works. We should know whether it will be funded within the next six months.
* FTAC members also discussed the need for a simple mechanism to schedule conference rooms and classrooms. IT Governance is responding by beginning the process to evaluate room scheduling software currently on the market and whether it may be useful to ASU.
* The $5,000 technology grant was split and awarded to HPPE and Anthropology. HPPE requested software and hardware to measure force, direction and movement of the human body. Anthropology requested software and hardware to track archeological sites and data.
* HPPE and several other departments requested a broader package for SPSS. Currently, Psychology and Sociology are collecting a technology fee to pay for the base package of SPSS. This does not provide the ability for higher level statistics. In discussions with Beez from HPPE, they will be introducing the same fee for their courses that require statistics and beginning next year, this should allow the campus to upgrade the SPSS package.
* FTAC also requested pictures of students to appear in the class roster. This could help us with identifying students, learning names and detecting cheating or absentee students. We will be in discussions with computing services next year to determine if this is feasible.
* Computing Services has been continuing to upgrade technology in classrooms throughout campus. A classroom in the Library was approved by FTAC to receive technology. Classrooms in MCD with poor quality will be replaced this summer. Various other classrooms around the campus have been updated or will be updated this summer. Some of the money to update these classrooms has come from Title V and as this grant ends, the speed at which we upgrade will slow down.