FTAC meeting: Thursday, Sept 11th , 2014 at 4:00

Meeting began with a brief discussion regarding the upgrading of NIE 302 for technology including a computer, projector and smart board. Stacy informed FTAC of the need in an e-mail distributed to the committee earlier in the month. She clarified that rooms in East Campus will have no impact for the demand for teaching rooms in the library.

* The vote was unanimous. NIEL 302 will be added to the rotation for technology upgrades and installation
* They may not be able to get to it this upcoming summer, but it will be done once resources are available

FTAC was informed of the development of an IT governance group, currently meeting every other week. Based on the goals of IT governance, FTAC needs to develop their priority list of technology for faculty needs. Items for discussion on the priority list include:

* Rosanna Backen from the Library suggested that screen sharing software for the library lab be added. The technology currently exists in BUS 130 and MCD 181. It costs approximately $600. It was suggested that Smart Sync could be added to the library lab without needed to add it to the priority list.
* The library also suggested that Credo Information Literacy Course Module be added.
* Iclickers have been requested as a priority item. Bill Hermann mentioned that iclickers may be quickly becoming an obsolete technology as apps to operate from phones are now widely available. Chris Olance mentioned that the app software have not been working consistently and cannot currently be relied on as an alternative to iclickers. Another option would be to require students to purchase their own iclickers. Then, the school would only need to pay for the bases at a more nominal cost. Students would then be in charge of paying for their own batteries.
* Degree Works has also been suggested as a priority list item. Degree Works is an advising software program, currently at use in many colleges and universities around the country that provides flexibility and accuracy for tracking student’s graduation progress. It would be helpful with advising and retention. The cost is currently upwards of $200,000.
* Another item for discussion on the priority list is software that enables personnel and faculty to find available classrooms that meet certain requirements. Currently, different classrooms, even in the same building, are scheduled by different people. This could be solved by software or assigning a point person.
* Finally, increasing funding for the grant was mentioned. So much technology necessary for faculty are specific to departments and majors. Having a greater opportunity to fund more faculty teaching projects would be helpful across campus.

After discussion of each item, FTAC voted for the following priority list:

* Degree Works
* Across campus classroom scheduling
* Iclickers or alternative polling methods
* Grant funding
* Credo

The technology Grant was the next item of discussion. It was agreed that winners of last year’s grant could either do a 5-10 minute presentation to FTAC or submit a one page report of the use of their funding.

* For next year’s grant, it was agreed that the end of Feb would be an appropriate deadline, while early April would work as a deadline for informing applicants of our decision. That would provide enough time in April and early May to order any software or hardware with computing services before summer begins.
* FTAC members were given a copy of last year’s grant and will look it over before our next FTAC meeting for any editorial changes. It was agreed to look over the Technology Policy as well.

Chris Olance updated FTAC on the new Security Awareness Training for the month of October, which serves as Cyber Security Awareness month. Computing Services recently purchased KnowBe4.

* KnowBe4 is a 40 minute training video. Computing services recently presented this training to the Cabinet, and the Cabinet agreed that the training should be mandatory and granted computing services the right to lock people out of their accounts if they do not complete the training.
* Recently, computing services tested faculty and staff across campus with a fake phishing attempt. 17% of faculty and staff responded, much too high a number for any security on campus. They will be retesting campus periodically to see if the training is effective at lowering the response rate for fake phishing attempts.
* E-mail reminders will be sent out, but FTAC members were encouraged to let their own departments know of the requirement and to pay attention to the e-mails coming from computing services.

An agenda item brought by Rex Filer, who was not present, includes examining the Tier system for technology assistance. He was interested in finding out how items are moved up or down in the Tier system.

* Currently an 8 page document exists for describing the tiers, but exactly which technologies are at each tier does not exist. Both computing services and AITC will provide as much support as possible for any help faculty and staff need, regardless of the tier system.
* What is of most relevant is who is responsible for paying for specific technologies, departments or computing services?
* FTAC will come back to this item at a later date.

Meeting adjourned