MINUTES
IT Advisory Committee Meeting
April 9, 2009
8:30-10:00 AM

Present: Andy Bland, Lauri Brender, Dr. Becky Carr, John Chivvis, Jim Culver, Dr. Fred Fisher, Kirk Hausman, Dave Jennings, Dr. Henrik Schmiediche, David Sweeney, Ron Szabo, Lacey Baze, Willis Marti, Allison Oslund, Michelle Osterholm, Ethel Vaught

Item 1: Encryption
A. Encryption software.
   • The software is licensed per system. They are starting with 5,000 licenses.
   • Both are compatible with PCs and Macs. There are still questions about Linux.
   • Software licenses should be available for purchase the Monday prior to the end of this semester.
B. Available software.
   • EGYP WD Encryption
     o Provides controls for files and folders.
     o Initial price is ~$10 per user. Annual maintenance fee is ~$10.
   • Endpot DC 4.3
     o More comprehensive: Provides extra controls for thumb drives and emails.
     o Initial price is $30-$50 per user. Annual maintenance fee is ~$10.
C. Support.
   • Platinum support provides 24/7 3-tier support. The same three people will always answer questions. User must first call Help Desk.
   • Committee would like training sessions to be available due to lack of “how-to” documentation. Willis proposed two, 20 seat training sessions on site. The slots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.
   • Committee would like to bypass Help Desk and directly contact vendor. This may be a possibility for users who attend the training session.

Item 2: IT.tamu.edu
A. Site overview.
   • CIS developing site that will serve as a roadmap for all IT services on campus that provides audience and resource based navigation.
   • The site will also provide targeted RSS feeds for each audience (Student, Faculty/Staff and IT Professional).
   • The site has very little text, but provides a brief explanation of each IT service, how to get started, and where to go for help.
   • Site is expected to launch by September 2009.
B. Feedback about site in general.
   • The default should search all Texas A&M IT sites, but provide an option to search only IT.tamu.edu.
   • Quick links organized as top 10 links now and top 10 links overall.
   • Don’t provide more than 15 links under one heading.
   • Don’t try to be “complete” with the site.
   • Provide an avenue for users to give general feedback about the layout of the site, etc.
C. Feedback about IT professional section on IT.tamu.edu.
   • Let IT professionals decide the top ten links.
- Allison’s group needs committee to give suggestions as to what content should be on the site for an IT professional. Committee should bring suggestions to the next meeting.
- Suggested content
  - Listing of current IT initiatives to ensure departments aren’t duplicating something that is already being done.
  - SSN Scanning
  - Server Virtualization
  - Available listservs
  - Road map for new IT professional

E. Discussion about IT Admin site.
- Committee agrees that site should provide a road map for new IT professionals, provide a series of links, and provide a detailed explanation of resources.
- How to provide site interaction for the users
  - Comments that have not been reviewed or approved are flagged as “unreliable”.
  - Limit who can contribute so there are no anonymous comments.
  - Provide an avenue for private feedback. Helpful suggestions are then incorporated into the site.

**Item 3: Future Topics of Discussion**
A. Meeting frequency.
- The committee wants to keep meeting twice per month until survey report is completed. We will revisit in September.

B. Suggestions
- Server virtualization
  - Andy Bland volunteered to help with this since his group has already done this.
- IT training
- Shared directory services
- VM vs. Cisco

**Item 4: Announcements**
A. There will be a workshop in June on ID management.