

Minutes of Meeting  
Technical Services Committee  
December 3, 2004

Convened: 3:04 p.m.

Present: Didier Bertrand, Bryan Dyer, David Bivin, David Ford, Ed Nagelhout, Mike Scott, Rosalie A. Vermette

I. Introductions were made of the new members

II. The committee unanimously agreed that Didier Bertrand should continue as the committee's chair.

III. IT Security Office Policies vs. Faculty Governance issues:

The University wants to be able to notify a user if a problem on the user's workstation, that is doing something malevolent to the server, is detected. Some units on campus have not maintained a user base of what computer belongs to who and who is responsible for the upkeep. Technical Services maintains a user base and the upkeep for Liberal Arts. The University's approach to ITSO's recommendation is that each workstation be registered to a specific user. That user has an Internet Protocol (IP) number that is assigned to them dynamically. If that person's machine becomes infected the person can be contacted by UITS.

David Ford was concerned with security and privacy issues. The association of a person's user id with a specific workstation makes it easier to gather information about the user's computer use.

Mike Scott was concerned with the efficiency of the policy. If ITSO contacts a user the user won't know what to do so in turn will contact the local support provider, who should have been ITSO's first contact. If ITSO contacts the local support provider first the provider can react more efficiently than the user by immediately fixing the workstation or at the very least contain the problem. ITSO doesn't feel that contacting the local support provider for a unit is a reasonable alternative because some units on campus are not as rigorous on maintaining network integrity as Liberal Arts. Mike offered the campus wide worm attack of computers last spring as an example. The fix would have been less onerous if Technical Services had been given a list of usernames affected and been allowed to immediately disconnect the users' workstations from the network. ITSO turning off network access was more problematic because Technical Services could not use network tools to rebuild workstations; instead they had to manually rebuild each workstation. This took longer, preventing faculty from having access to the internet, and cost more in overtime.

Mike also expressed concern that faculty are not consulted when a policy that affects faculty is made.

The committee unanimously agreed that Didier will draft a statement of the Tech Committee's concerns about ITSO's policy and their relationship with faculty governance to present it to the faculty. In addition

- A. A request will be sent to the Agenda Council to the committee a slot on the Faculty Assembly agenda.
- B. David Ford and Mike Scott will put together a document for the committee to send to faculty explaining what will be presented at Faculty Assembly.
- C. Mike will attend the Faculty Assembly meeting to help explain the issues and answer questions.

Student Representative, David Bivin, asked what he should do to let students know about the policy. The committee advised him that the information should be made available to the student body.

- IV. RIF (Research Infrastructure) funds available for Tech Grants:  
The dean was concerned with the budget last year and asked that the committee not to do Tech Grants for Teaching. Some RIF money was available for technology research purchases and it was suggested that the faculty be queried on what should be purchased to support their research. The committee will look through the different proposals and determine, via e-mail, what should be considered for purchasing. Mike Scott will find out from Rick Hanson how much money is available and get price estimates for the items the committee recommends.
- V. Technology Policies for the School  
The Faculty Assembly president wants technology policies to flow through the committee. Didier will look further into it.
- VI. By-law Clarification on SLA TSC Composition  
There has been representation from the various lab committees on the Technical Advisory Committee; the by-laws do not reflect this. If the committee continues to have the representatives the by-laws need to reflect this and also indicate if the representatives will be voting members or not.
- VII. The new IUPUI site is hijacking department web sites that are linked from the IUPUI site by putting a header at the top of the page in a frame format that can not be removed. Technical Services has the codes that can be included on web pages to break out of the frame.
- VIII. Faculty can now submit grades electronically. The process is fast and easy.
- IX. Role of Technology in the Liberal Arts' Degree Requirements – will discuss at the next meeting.
- X. January meeting will be schedule via e-mail.

Adjourned: 4:32 p.m.