

Instructional and Research Support Committee Meeting
May 24, 2012

Present: Munehiro Fukuda, Chair, Wayne Au, Kevin Lavery, Peter Littig and Becca Price

Guests: Betsy Tippens, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Information Technologies

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Review of IRSC Minutes of May 17, 2012

The IRSC minutes of May 17, 2012 minutes were approved.

Review of All the Other Previous Discussions toward Annual Report

A. Recommendation to IT Questionnaire

Betsy Tippens, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Information Technologies will be invited to attend IRSC meetings ensuring continuous open communication with the IRSC and collaboration on all issues and initiatives. The role of the IRSC must be more active in decision making at the earliest stage of planning, before decisions are made or surveys are conducted.

The role of the IRSC is to represent the faculty voice on policy and decision making on teaching and research. An IRSC member will serve on the Technology Advisory Committee (TAC).

Faculty User Group

The Faculty User Group was established as a way that the TAC can interface with faculty to find out what faculty need in the way of technology and get feedback from the faculty. One area that the group is looking at is the Digital Media Lab and money coming in for course fees. Faculty will be involved in policy and decision-making on how these fees are spent. Fukuda communicated with Gray Kochhar-Lindgren, Associate Vice Chancellor of Undergraduate Education, he is working to set up an initial meeting to discuss these institution-wide policies for how course fees can be used across all disciplines. The Faculty User Group will serve in an advisory role in developing research and teaching policy across the campus.

IRSC consensus: Faculty representation needs to be included in decision-making in developing research and teaching policy across the campus as a matter of principle. The IRSC should have representation on the Faculty User Group.

B. New UWB Website

Laura reviewed the new UWB website with the IRSC and asked for feedback. The IRSC recommendations on the UWB website will be given to Laura Mansfield on an ongoing basis.

C. Transition from Blackboard to Canvas

Information Technologies briefed the IRSC on the transition from Blackboard to Canvas; Joe Shelley met with the IRSC to update the committee on the status of the transition planning. The IRSC would like to get follow through on the status of the support for Catalyst at UWB. Catalyst is integrated into the UW grading system, Canvas is not.

IRSC discussion points

- Can Go-Post and other tools be incorporated into Canvas?
- No strategic plans for integrating tools into Canvas at this time.
- Integrate current campus systems into Canvas.
- Content on Catalyst will remain.
- UW pilot of Canvas is currently underway; it will be offered more broadly Autumn Quarter 2012.
- A year-long assessment process will be completed, then a decision made.
- Tippens asked if any IRSC members would like to take part in the pilot project of Canvas. Becca Price would agree to participate.

D. Student Technology Fee funding

The STF is used to supplement the availability of technology to UWB students which allows them to further their education and research goals. Tippens discussed the Student Technology Fee with the IRSC. IT has budgetary control over proposals of the STF. A budget has been submitted from IT for computer labs. These labs could be centrally funded in the future.

E. TLC Policy

TLC is in the process of completing a mission statement, the strategic planning process is to finish work on the plan this academic year and have a specific, measurable plan in place by the end of Spring Quarter. The Center would like to have a faculty advisory group in place for consultation on the impact of the budget and setting priorities in the TLC.

IRSC consensus: The IRSC agreed that on a policy level, faculty governance should have input, therefore policy decisions should be handled in consultation with the IRSC. The IRSC would like to be updated on strategic planning in the TLC regularly.

F. Any additional items to be included in this year's annual report

- Fukuda will draft an IRSC year-end report for the EC.
- Program reports from IRSC representatives
- IRSC will request meeting time at GFO meetings as necessary
- IRSC will increase visibility and involvement in teaching and research on campus
 - Faculty User Group
 - Academic Oversight Committees
 - TAC
 - Undergraduate Research Steering Committee

IRSC membership for next year: Continuing members – Munehiro Fukuda will continue to serve as Chair, Wayne Au and Becca Price. Members ending their terms: Kevin Laverty and Peter Littig. Fukuda thanked the members of the IRSC for their service on the committee.

Minutes submitted by Barbara Van Sant
Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.