Faculty Senate Library and IT Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2012

10/23/2012

Attendance: David Matthews (Chair), Jerry Riehl, Jean Derco, Ramon Leon, Marianne Breinig, Sadie Hutson, AlanWallace. Maribeth Manoff, Wonjae Hwang, Katherine Ambroziak

Agenda Item: Remote Desktop Support by Library Staff
Alan Wallace responded to an email from Ramon Leon about capabilities in the library to use Skype for demonstrating use of library resources such as databases. Dr. Leon was especially interested in the screen sharing capabilities of Skype. Discussion items included:

– The fact that librarians have experimented with a number of remote solutions for these types of demonstrations, including Skype and Blackboard Collaborate
– There is a limit on what screens can be shared via Skype; some databases have licenses that prohibit or limit this option

The question of whether this was an institution-wide issue was raised, i.e. does the library and/or OIT need to purchase or license a new software solution for screen-sharing? In any case, we would need to look at the issue in the light of the variety of solutions and the resources at hand.

Joel Reeves can bring this as an issue to student groups on campus; Steve Smith might be asked to do the same with student groups that advise the library.

Ramon Leon decided that he might have been wrong about Skype, will try Blackboard Collaborate.

Agenda Item: Acquisition of e-books
Discussion of a second issue distributed to the committee via email from Ramon Leon included:
– Clarification that Dr. Leon wants to be reimbursed by his department for Kindle books so this was determined not to be a library issue. He is happy with the library in this area.
– The library is currently purchasing thousands of e-books; faculty can request e-books through the same channels as they would print books
– Members of the committee would like faculty to be able to learn about the fiscal ramifications of purchasing e-books so they can choose the most cost efficient option when requesting orders

Agenda Item: CIO Search – Nominations for Committee Representative

Volunteers for this search committee (for the UTK CIO):

– Ramon Leon
– David Matthews

Additional Items

- A question was raised about how often Blackboard is updated with student information such as drop/adds and clicker registration. Jean Derco described the timing (drop/adds each week, clicker registration immediate). She will check if there are pending issues that need to be resolved.

- David Matthews, Committee Chair discussed a strategy for future committee meetings to ensure that we keep our work efficient, significant, and relevant to the university as a whole. He would like committee members to come to the next meeting with a broad range of ideas for discussion items that would meet those criteria. One example is online student evaluations, including:
    - Faculty has a difficult time understanding results.
    - How to increase participation.
    - This particular item is due for discussion at the November Faculty Senate meeting with a presentation by the Nursing Department.
    - The Teaching and Learning Counsel is also working on this.