Minnesota State University, Mankato
Learning & Technology Roundtable
Thursday, March 23, 2006
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
ML 3012

Present: Gale Allen, Jane Baird, Don Descy, Jan Eimers, Nancy Geistfeld, Dave Gjerde, Jim Grabowska, Brian Groh, Catherine Hughes, Mark Johnson, Kent Kalm, Mark Kump, Peg Lawrence, Patricia Lipetzky, Roland Nord, Joan Roca, Gerald Schneck, Steven Vassar, Robert Zelin
Guests: Matt Clay, Gary McKinley

Minutes

Announcements & Upcoming Events
1. 2006 Minnesota E-Learning Summit, May 18 - 19, Augsburg College, MSP – This is an annual meeting consisting of mostly teaching faculty from the Twin Cities and surrounding areas. It is very highly recommended.
2. EDUCAUSE and AECT Conferences: October 9 – 13, Dallas – Funding for this conference is available through Academic Affairs. It is a very good conference and offers more than you will be able to see. If you can clear your calendar next October, attendance is strongly encouraged.
3. Meetings this semester: (ITS Conference Room ML3012) – 4/6 (2 – 3:30); 4/13 (3 – 4:30); 5/4 (2 – 3:30)
4. 2006 MERLOT Conference: Aug. 8 – 11, Ottawa, Canada. A note regarding this conference was sent to LTR members electronically.
5. Multi Disciplinary: Bridging Our Classrooms to Reality: Using Games & Simulations across the Disciplines, CTL Discipline Workshop, St. Cloud State University, April 7 – 8, 2006. Kent Kalm said that this conference will be broken down into subject areas of 1) Statistics, Economics, Social Science, 2) Business and Accounting and 3) English. It will provide an opportunity for those that have tried gaming and simulations in their classes to share experiences. It will also provide an opportunity to network with other gamers and discuss how to generate more recognition and enthusiasm for gaming within the system.

Old Business
6. Approval of Minutes - Jim Grabowska made a motion to approve the minutes of March 2. Gerald Schneck made a second. The minutes were accepted without change.
7. D2L Issues and Continuing Update (Jeff H. & Mark J.) – There are no major problems to report.
8. Faculty Exchange Series Update (Kent K.) – Kent said that one week from today (Thursday, March 30) an online meeting will take place. More information will
be distributed. April 28 is the final “Around the Table” discussion. Sandwiches will be provided.

9. Simulation/Games Subgroup Update (Kent K.) – On Monday, the group will review the results of the survey and decide which direction to move. Kent Kalm has spoken with a MnSCU representative to discuss collaborative degree certificate. Plans have been finalized and will be submitted to the University of Minnesota in late April or early May. Mark Johnson made contact with John O’Brien at Century College and Barry Dahl at Lake Superior. They are both very excited about this venture.

10. Academic Integrity Subcommittee (Gerry S.) – Thanks to Jim Grabowska, the surveys have been sent. 827 faculty emails resulted in 132 completed surveys. 1002 student surveys were sent and 77 responses were received. The data is interesting and data collection will continue. The subgroup will present its summarized findings and recommendation to the LTR at an April meeting. The subgroup feels that it is clear that something has to be available to check for plagiarism. Training needs to be completed for processes and procedures. The existing standards and guidelines are fuzzy and need clarification. Joan stated that he would have two librarians present their findings about using Google to detect plagiarism at the next LTR meeting.

Updates

11. Student Advisory Process (James Dye)
   Mark Johnson continues to work with James Dye and the rest of the subcommittee. The students in the group seem to be learning a great deal about what ITS does and what services are provided. The students seem engaged and pleasantly surprised by what is available.

12. ITS/ETS (Mark J.)
   Mark Johnson said that, during spring break, representatives from Video Furnace did a video streaming presentation. We have signed an agreement with them and will be demo-ing their product next fall for 60 days. We provide the hardware and they will provide the software. There are discussions taking place with COMET/METNET for possible funding. Mark also stressed the need for additional bandwidth. We cannot react quickly enough. Bryan and Mark are trying to get involved with the MnSCU Infrastructure Committee. We need to do something now.

   Mark spoke of a demonstration of Meeting Place. This is more of an audio conference with video components. It integrates with our phone system.

   Mark told the group about the approval of an IT Security position. This vacancy has been posted and he is hopeful that it will be filled within a month.

13. Extended Learning (Pat L.)
   Patricia Lipetzky told the group about Urban Ventures, an outreach program to communities in poor sections of Minneapolis. MSU has an interest in partnering
with this project. It would provide some level of education to people in these neighborhoods. Dean Fagin has expressed an interest in this program. We would like to have a storefront group of computers available where students can learn technology and take online classes. This is a great way to reconnect with people who wouldn’t otherwise have an opportunity. We could deliver unique content without the content provider being there. This is an excellent opportunity for MSU to reach out to rural or urban communities.

The RFP process for submitting online programs is due at the end of March.

14. MnOnline (Roland N. /Joan R.)
This group will be meeting next Tuesday, March 28, 2006.

15. COMET/METNET (Mark J.)
Mark Johnson met with the Executive Board yesterday. They will be forming a contract to combine the two regions together. It is hopeful that this will be completed by July.

New Business

16. Proposal from Extended Learning Sub Meet on Online Tuition (Pat & Gerry)
Pat Lipetzky and Gerry Schneck (co-chairs of the Extended Learning Sub meet & confer) distributed a proposal for Online Tuition Rates. This proposal would create a new fee structure to maximize the utilization of seats in online courses. The proposal is to begin charging one tuition rate for online course users next fall. The document distributed lists pros and cons of this proposal. MSU currently has the highest online non-resident tuition rate and this is not competitive. This group is not asking the LTR to take an action at this time. If you have comments or concerns regarding this proposal, please submit them to Pat Lipetzky.

17. ITS Update/Showcase – Technology Response System (Matt Clay) and Help Desk Activity and Statistics (Gary McKinley)
Gary McKinley showed the LTR members a presentation on Help Desk Statistics. This information is available in Gary’s public files on MavDisk at:\mavdisk\msu\Staff\McKinley_Gary\My_Public_Files\Msu HelpDeskStats.ppt

Matt Clay briefly discussed the Audience Response System (A.R.S.) equipment. If you are interested in using this or have questions, please contact Matt.

Other

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.