Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Learning & Technology Roundtable  
Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
CSU 238

Present: Jane Baird, Evan Bibbee, Queen Booker, Ron Browne, Becky Copper-Gelenz, Diane Coursol, Jan Eimers, Mary Jane Fitcher, Jennifer Guyer-Wood, Jeff Henline, Avra Johnson, Ted Johnson, Brian Jones, Joshua Kilvington, Sarah Koenen, Peg Lawrence, Roland Nord, Steve Robinson, Joan Roca, Bryan Schneider, Wayne Sharp, Julie Snow  
Absent: Marcius Brock, Matt Clay, Marilyn Delmont, Robert Dooley, Yvette Dulohery, Marni Dunning, Catherine Hughes, Chris Kaufman, Don Larsson, Dawn Leech, Jayme Pretzloff, Danae Quirk Dorr, Murtaza Rajabali, Steve Smith, Gary Urban, Steve Vassar  
Guest: David Georgina, Jerry Jeffries

Introductions  
A special welcome to our new MSSA members, students Sarah Koenen and Joshua Kilvington.

Announcements & Upcoming Events/Conference (FYI)  
- LTR Meetings this semester: 11/10, 12/1 (CSU 238)
- Telepresence Demonstration – Friday, November 13, 2009 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please contact Bryan Schneider. Right now, two vans are scheduled to travel up to Bloomington. This is taking place at the Cisco Building and NOT at 7700 France. Students are encouraged to attend to see if this technology would be useful. The focus is on a couple of colleges for this particular trip but faculty interest is very important. We need to know if this is something that will be useful for MSU. Bryan stated that this will be videotaped and can be shared later.

OLD BUSINESS  
Approval of Minutes of 5/5/09 – A motion was made by Ron Browne, a second by Evan Bibbee to accept the minutes of September 1, 2009 as written. The minutes were unanimously approved without change. LTR minutes posted at: http://mnsu.edu/ltr/ltrinfo.html

NEW BUSINESS  
1. LTR Faculty Issues/Concerns  
   Faculty met last month and discussed several issues. The group may be convened later this semester if needed.

2. MnSCU WBOB Power Outage (October 24 – 25)  
   Bryan Schneider stated that MnSCU has two data centers, one by the Capital Building and one is the West Bank Office Building. The West Bank Office Building is shared with the U of M and has inadequate cooling and power. This building must be powered down to upgrade the air conditioning equipment. There are two options available; one is to power everything down on Saturday, October 24 at 11 a.m. and bring it back up on Sunday, October 25th. This will take one week to synchronize the system. The other option is to bring down D2L for 24 hours. This would include DARS, D2L and others. We are not sure what MnSCU is going to do. When confirmation is received, the information will be shared with faculty, staff, and students. It is unknown at this time if the power down will affect MetNet or Adobe Connect. Bryan Schneider will provide information as it becomes available.

3. Other  
   None
ONGOING TECHNOLOGY UPDATES
A. Student MSSA/STR (Students)
   No report.

B. Extended Learning/7700 France (Becky Copper-Gelenz)
   No report.

C. Library Services (Peg Lawrence)
   Peg Lawrence told the group that the Library has been very busy. The patron count is up and all stats have increased. The Library taught 33 sessions of Biology 100 in 3 days. The Library also has an online and animated tutorial page in Echo360. The 9th Annual Genealogy Expo will occur on October 24, 2009.

D. ITS – VP/CIO (Bryan Schneider for Marilyn Delmont)
   Bryan announced that the IMS Advisory Council has been praising the work that has been done with D2L. The up time is astounding and there have been no major issues. It has been a tremendous amount of work but the additional funding has helped a great deal.

   The integration of Turnitin and D2L is being tested and discussed. Discussion was going to occur in September and results will be shared. There are still issues on licensing charges, intellectual rights and integration capabilities.

   There is nothing to report for MN Online.

   The cell phone policy was accepted by MSUAASF and IFO. This provided stipends for faculty and staff. Since the other bargaining units did not accept the policy, MnSCU went to no stipends at all with stronger wording. There will be NO personal use of state issued cell phones. If an emergency arises and a phone must be used, the pay back will be approximately .40 per minute. This will be going to the Board within a few weeks.

   Carolyn Parnell has been hired as Chief Operations Officer for MnSCU ITS on a one-year contract that may be renewed. She will be figuring out problems and trying to correct them.

   Ken Niemi has announced his retirement. A search committee has been formed to hire a new CIO. The Search Firm is Jeff Harris. Recommendations from campuses should be sent directly to them. There are no MnSCU IT personnel on the committee. Lori Lamb is working with the committee. Airport interviews will take place in early December. It is hoped that this position be filled by June.

   MnSCU is changing the Tech ID and Pin system due to insecurity issues raised with direct deposit information. The pin number will now be a more complex password with up to 20 characters. This change may disrupt our single sign-on capabilities at MSU. Our systems are being checked to see if we can accommodate a 20 digit password. This will also expire every 180 days.

   Star ID will replace Tech ID and password in the future. This may occur as soon as November 5, 2009.

   D2L Capacity Planning – For some campuses, the pandemic plan is to have a template for all courses out in D2L so that students will be able to access their assignments if they cannot report to campus. They do not think that there will be a problem with this but storage may be an issue. Problems are not anticipated.
Course Search Expansion – This will be expanded from 15 to 50.

ISBN – Students will be able to search courses by textbook ISBN number. This will be an issue in the Registrar’s Office and possibly mean double entry for faculty.

Students First – This will be covered at next month’s LTR meeting when John O’Brien is present.

ITS is working on Windows 7 readiness. Microsoft’s retail launch will be October 22nd. There are some printing issues that are being resolved. It seems to be working with Vista. Wayne Sharp announced that there will be a kiosk set up outside of the ACC so that people can stop by and try it out. Wayne said that they haven’t found any difficulties yet. Next summer, other kiosks will be installed around campus and the classrooms completed in the summer. There has been a lot of advertising for Windows 7. It will cost approximately $120. Students can download the program directly from Microsoft for $30. This special price is NOT available in the Campus Computer Store.

E. ITS – Networking/Systems (Bryan Schneider)
   a. IMAGENOW = changes were made to address stability problems. A minor upgrade will occur on Saturday.
   b. Issues with Wireless Network – there have been some reports of disconnects at Student Health Services. If you are disconnected from the wireless network, please report it to the Help Desk.
   c. 802.11N Access Points – will begin to be placed around campus. They offer higher speed than 802.11g. A College of Business pilot project will occur next semester.
   d. IT is working with the beta version of Office 2010. A demo will be provided in a month or two.
   e. Star Alert – Subscriptions have fallen drastically since the cutover to Star Alert. We originally had 6,000 subscribers that quickly fell down to 550 students. A bug in the website has been fixed and now students, faculty and staff need to check a box to opt out and now subscriptions are increasing – up to 5733 students. An informational email will be sent out to students again in the near future.
   f. The phone system upgrade will occur on October 20th. There are many new capabilities and there should not be much disruption in service.

F. ITS – ACC (Wayne Sharp)
   a. Wayne Sharp introduced David Georgina. David will be working closely with Jeff Henline and Marni Dunning. If you need assistance with technology, please contact them.
   b. All has been running smoothly in the ACC.
   c. Mathematica – Wayne announced that MnSCU is no longer covering the cost of this. The total cost is approximately $80,000. MSU has been asked to contribute $7800 as our share.
   d. Wayne has been working with Security on a database to consolidate cameras and licenses.
   e. The displays around campus are operational now. User groups are being formed so that individuals can share information.

G. ITS – Customer Service (Dawn Leech)
   No report.

H. ITS – ISRS (Ted Johnson)
   ISRS seems to be behaving as it should be.

I. ITS – MSU Web & Portal (Ted Johnson)
   There are a number of new features in process of development for web authoring. The image editor is available on line. Individuals can upload photos and crop or resize them for a webpage.
Work has been done for Student Activities. An off-campus housing group has taken Google API and mixed it in with a database of people that have apartments for rent in the Mankato area. Users go in and answer questions concerning the type of place they are looking for and a list appears with available units. A map is also provided to pinpoint the location of these. This should be deployed within one week if it hasn’t already been done.

Ted will demonstrate the Identity Bar in the Technology Showcase.

J. **ITS – COMET/METNET (Ted Johnson)**

Ted Johnson announced that the COMET/METNET Board meeting has been postponed for two weeks.

K. **ITS – D2L (Jeff Henline)**

Jeff Henline said that there is nothing new with D2L. An email will be sent to faculty explaining how to export courses. The purge will begin on October 19th. Courses from summer/fall 2006 will be purged. This will help with performance issues but is primarily a management issue because backing up these files took too long. A regular purge will be completed every two years.

L. **Other tech updates/announcements (Don Larsson, …)**

No report.

**TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE**

Ted Johnson presented the Single Sign-on Identity. Additional information is available at: [http://www.mnsu.edu/identitybar](http://www.mnsu.edu/identitybar)

Jerry Jeffries demonstrated Microsoft Exchange 10 (new upgrades for MavMAIL) that will be rolled out during winter break. His presentation is available at:

[https://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/bryan/NewMavMAIL2010.pdf](https://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/bryan/NewMavMAIL2010.pdf)

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Julie Dornack