Steve Vassar welcomed members to the last meeting of the semester. Cookies and juice were provided. A special welcome was extended to the student representatives from MSSA.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

1. Meetings spring semester (all on FIRST TUESDAY, 2 – 4 p.m. in CSU 285)
   - February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1

2. EDUCAUSE 2007: Seattle, October 23 – 26, 2007 ← Plan ahead! EDUCAUSE is a really fascinating experience. Funding may be possible through Academic Affairs.

Old Business

3. Approval of Minutes of 11/2/06 (distributed)
   A motion was made by Brian Groh to approve the minutes of November 2, 2006. A second was made by Kent Kalm. The minutes were approved without change.

4. D2L Issues (Bryan S. & Jeff H.)
   Bryan Schneider stated that discussions have been taking place with the Instruction Management Committee at the MnSCU level regarding when to upgrade to version 8. Preference has been given to the summer months. Additional information will be available after tomorrow’s meeting.

   At the national level, an open source group has written a recommendation to Blackboard to throw out the patent and drop the lawsuit regarding D2L.

   There are no known D2L issues from students or faculty at this time.

5. Problems with Forwarding MSU Email to Other Providers (Bryan and discussion with students)
   There have been problems with students receiving official University email messages when they forward their mail to another service provider such as Yahoo or Hotmail. These providers often filter mail and our announcements are sent to the ‘junk mail’ or dropped.
Some schools allow students to forward email and others don’t. There are campuses that only allow forwarding to a certain provider. ITS can only guarantee delivery of campus email messages to campus addresses. If messages are forwarded to an alternate provider, we cannot guarantee delivery. Discussion between students and faculty will be necessary to determine if forwarding should be allowed.

Students need to be aware that they are responsible for checking their campus mail, since it is an official means of campus communication.

Bryan announced that an updated version of email will be released soon offering more versatility in the email program. We would like to have students and faculty involved in the pilot project. The portal also offers the combination of MavMail and MavDisk. We will need to partner with the MSSA to raise awareness of these products. It may be possible to insert an article in the MSSA newsletter.

Students raised concerns about getting training on the use of the different computer applications. Wayne Sharp stated that there are numerous training sessions offered at the ACC. There are approximately 50-60 different topics for students to learn about. Even though these sessions are available every semester, they are not well attended.

6. Report from Response Systems Subgroup (Matt)
Matt Clay could not attend the meeting but Wayne Sharp shared that the group has met and will be hosting a “Clicker Shoot Out”. This will be a presentation where 5 vendors are brought to campus to meet with faculty. Faculty will be able to report their feelings on the different clickers. We then may be able to identify a “standard” clicker for campus use. Identifying a standard may also help us with textbook bundling. We would like to have a representative from the MSSA join this committee. Please contact Matt Clay or Wayne Sharp if interested.

7. Report from Internet Explorer 7 Rollout Subgroup (Bryan)
Internet Explorer 7 is downloadable right now. This program can also be removed. We will be waiting until the end of spring semester to implement the change to campus computers. Some websites (such as the Health Insurance Assessment we took during Open Enrollment) do not work with Internet Explorer 7. There are also problems with D2L but these will be fixed by a maintenance release over the winter break.

Bryan announced that Vista has also been released but will not be available until January. It is not recommended that Vista be used now because of configuration and encrypting questions. Vista will be phased in for new laptops.

Wayne Sharp said that no major adjustments for the ACC will happen over the winter break. Some major changes will take place during the summer.

8. Report from Technology Grant Proposals Subgroup (Wayne)
This group has sent out the RFP. A meeting will occur on December 6 in CSU 123 at 11 a.m. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to apply for these grants. The technology
grant must benefit the student population.  These grants will be awarded in the summer but implemented in the fall.

9. Ideas for a Classroom of the Future (discussion) – (Bryan)
The Social Work department is offering a seminar class during the spring and has requested use of the T&T center as a pilot test (since this meeting room is not a classroom). People in South Africa, Kentucky and MSU will be able to attend classes in a synchronous environment. We need to try and figure out how a class would work and put together ideas on how to accommodate these sessions. Using this as a pilot project will help identify which type of seating, programming, and connectivity would be needed. We may be able to try a portable unit provided by COMET.

10. Student LTR
No report.

11. ITS/ETS (Bryan S.)
Bryan announced that during the winter break the wireless network will be down and unavailable due to an upgrade. The regular network will not be affected by this upgrade. A news article will be sent to the Reporter so that the campus will be informed.

Upgrades to the infrastructure will be made with will allow verification of 3-tags. Maps will reflect where the signals are being used. ITS will also be notified of downages quicker.

Bryan stated that 16 access points were added this semester.

Phones will be installed in classrooms to broadcast emergency announcements. The software is being held up by the vendor. It is hopeful that this feature will be working within 30 – 60 days.

A security awareness training program will be required for all faculty and staff. This is a D2L based course designed to inform people of security problems. This will identify what people should do if there is a security breach and it will also deal with privacy issues. The program is being worked on at the MnSCU level. Rollout is expected for next spring.

ITS is still in the process of hiring an Instructional Designer. They have had two failed searches and are regrouping to determine how to fill the needs of the campus. A faculty member on campus will be assisting them with rewriting the position description.

12. MSU Web (Ted J.)
See other.

13. ACC (Wayne)
No report.

14. COMET/METNET (Ted J.)
Joan Klanderud announced that a meeting will be held the third week in January.
15. Extended Learning (Pat L. & Kent K.)
   Kent Kalm stated that they will be forming an online educator community of practice. If you are interested, please send your name to Kent.

   The last Faculty Exchange meeting for this semester will be held on Thursday at the Alumni Foundation Conference Room. This will deal with online teaching and online education. Please RSVP to Kent so that he is able to order enough sandwiches.

   Next Wednesday, the first MnSCU meeting of Games and Simulations will be held.

16. MnOnline (Mary H.)
   No report.

17. Other
   Bryan Schneider announced that development on the portal has slipped. Ted is working on a list of what needs to be done. There are about 40 hours of work needed before personalization and the look/feel will be ready. It should be ready in early January for testing.

   For the Technology Showcase/Presentations, Bryan Schneider would like to bring in the new Security Manager to discuss policies and present to the LTR.