

RECORD OF ACTIONS

ITAC Meeting

September 19, 2006

Present: Mr. Jay Blaire, Dr. Richard Bookman, Ms. Yolanda Cooper, Dr. Massimiliano Galeazzi, Ms. Ellen Greenfield, Mr. Joe Hutchins, Dr. Mansur Kabuka, Mr. Tim Ramsay, Mr. Fred Robinson, Ms. Liz Rockowitz, Dr. Burt Rosenberg, Dr. James Shelley, Dr. Peter Tarjan, Mr. Dan Thomas, Mr. Bill Vilberg, Dr. Bill Walker, Dr. Rod Zika and Dr. Otis Brown, Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 1610 in the College of Engineering, McArthur Building, Room 289. R. Bookman and E. Rockowitz participated *via* teleconference.

1. Record of Actions

The Record of Actions for the April 11, 2006 meeting was approved with minor revisions.

2. Reports

a. Administrative software

D. Thomas summarized the report submitted as Attachment A. *ARIBA* has been updated and was fully functional as of September 10. An upgrade of *KRONOS* is underway. The Graduate School Admission acceptance process is complete. The *IDMS* to *DB2* transition is ongoing with a final round of testing scheduled to start next week.

b. Administrative hardware

F. Robinson summarized the report submitted as Attachment B.

The DASD usage is flat, however, IT's expectation is that it will increase due to the *IDMS* to *DB2* transition. The quarterly CPU usage forecast is on track although the impact of a *DB2*-based online transaction system is not well characterized.

c. Library Systems

B. Walker provided a brief update on Library matters. He introduced Ms. Y. Cooper, the Deputy University Librarian.

Walker noted that the Libraries are reworking the functioning of their Science Collections so as to improve economies of scale for online journals, catalog interoperability and management. The Library is

purchasing all the Elsevier back files as part of this process. He noted that some schools with inter-disciplinary needs could be disadvantaged by the current arrangement of quasi-independent catalogs, cataloging, gateways and access controls. A new web-accessible catalog will address a number of these deficiencies.

The committee asked whether he considered scientific data and data sets within the purview of the Library. Walker responded that many research university libraries are implementing the MIT *D Space* and he is open to discussions about a similar approach at UM.

d. Telecommunications

T. Ramsay gave the report. His overall summary is that the operational status is “good”. He commented that overall usage is much below IT’s threshold levels for concern, *i.e.*, much less than 50%.

e. Internet -- networking and security

S. Seruya gave the report submitted as Attachment C. Internet usage is nominal-- no problems are apparent.

The Verisign audit of IT systems was completed as were IT’s responses.

Seruya noted that the three campuses have decided on a “use it as it makes fiscal sense” approach to the 76-mile *FPL FiberNet* ring. This approach implies waiting until the current *BellSouth* contracts for dark fiber run their term before a broad scale implementation of communications on the *FPL FiberNet* infrastructure.

f. Medical School IT/networking

E. Rockowitz gave a summary of current Medical School applications. IT is implementing applications to enhance patient safety, work flow and HIPAA compliance as priorities. Their goal is to be ready for “the digital hospital” in 2010. She noted Radiology is already totally digital.

The various application groups are working with C. Bogue to address network availability and disaster recovery matters.

3. Strategic Advice

a. Advice on major initiatives

i. Metro-network architecture

S. Seruya provided an update. As noted above, the 76-mile ring is in limited service. The three campuses (Coral Gables, Medical and

Marine) are discussing governance, costing and operational matters and expect an agreement in the near future, however, implementation will be done based on economic and bandwidth needs.

IT is bringing up a disaster recovery site at *Telefonica* (Doral) that will be available for UM-wide utilization.

ii. CAS implementation

S. Seruya provided an update to the ITAC. *Verisign* specifically reviewed the CAS implementation and provided recommendations for improving the implementation, which IT has already addressed. IT is making changes in CAS to address *BlackBoard* needs also. B. Walker noted the Library's specific needs for a facile CAS implementation.

P. Tarjan noted that most of the Memorial Classroom Building was locked recently due to some issue with the *CaneCard* system. Ramsay responded that the Physical Plant contact number is x84091 to deal with *CaneCard* operations.

iii. New ID card framework

T. Ramsay stated that implementation is underway. These IDs use a hash-coded format to enhance cardholder privacy. IT is providing new format cards to any one who needs an ID now (there are no more old-style IDs being produced). IT's goal is 20% of the student body by year-end. IT commented that they would provide advice to units that wished to implement RFID compliant cards. Due to experiences with the current Coral Gables implementation, IT would not recommend the vendor they used.

b. Academic Computing support

i. LA GRID

J. Blaire stated that Pete Martinez (*IBM*) visited the Rosenstiel School and provided additional background on various aspects of LA GRID implementation. *IBM* is interested in seeing UM-based applications on the LA GRID.

ii. IBM Boca *BlueGene* use/access

R. Bookman provided an update on the *Scripps/IBM* legislative efforts to garner \$300M-\$500M in federal funding that would underwrite a large computing facility for Homeland Security

research applications targeting the genomics of various pathogens. As a result, he does not see this capability as a near term opportunity for UM researchers.

iii. Recording/serving class lectures via video/audio streaming

B. Vilberg provided the Committee with an update on *iTunes U*, an *Apple iPod*-based podcasting of course materials. UM has decided not to participate in the Apple program due to various contractual issues. UM is focusing on open-source approaches and has a prototype cohort of eight faculty implementing various podcasting applications.

c. IT Strategic Planning

i. Responses to *EduCause* Top 10 Issues (T. Ramsay)

T. Ramsay introduced Attachment D, titled "2006 Top Ten Information Technology Issues". This document was the basis for a spirited discussion of the survey group, the breadth of the audience, whether it was for IT specifically, or a more general set of university issues. ITAC suggested that a broad-based survey be done at UM to ascertain how these priorities would map to UM need.

4. Other Business

T. Ramsay introduced a concern about public access computing at UM and how IT and/or others could be assumed to be liable for misuse or abuse of such facilities. He suggested that UM/IT would like to see a policy statement on use and access control for public access computing.

This prompted a vigorous exchange of views concerning the balancing of academic freedom, research and liability concerns. The sense of ITAC is currently that more discussion was needed, but privacy and academic freedom would probably necessitate very general guidance and a reliance on individual responsibility.

The meeting was adjourned at 1741.

NOTE: The next ITAC meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2006 at 4:00 p.m., College of Engineering, McArthur Building, Room 289.