

RECORD OF ACTIONS

ITAC Meeting
March 13, 2007

Present: Mr. Jay Blaire, Ms. Yolanda Cooper, Mr. Joe Hutchins, Mr. Tim Ramsay, Mr. Fred Robinson, Dr. Burt Rosenberg, Mr. Stewart Seruya, Mr. Dan Thomas, Mr. William Vilberg, Dr. Alan Whitney, Dr. Rod Zika and Dr. Otis Brown, Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 1603 in the College of Engineering, McArthur Building, Room 289.

1. Record of Actions

The Record of Actions for the January 9, 2007 meeting was approved.

2. Reports

a. Administrative software

D. Thomas provided the report submitted as Attachment A. The IDMS database conversion was completed over the holidays, but tuning and bug fixing is ongoing. IT is “optimizing” the system for performance. EDI, KRONOS and JACADA systems were all upgraded since the last meeting. He noted that the credit-card system has processed \$112M in payments. More details are available in Attachment A.

b. Administrative hardware

F. Robinson summarized the report submitted as Attachment B.

The DASD usage has a slight increase. IT is expecting the IDMS project to release space in the near future, which would reduce the DASD usage. IT is expecting it to return to 45%-50% average utilization.

Mainframe CPU Utilization is being closely monitored. The impact of a *DB2*-based online transaction system is not well characterized and we will have to see the next quarter’s results – there is a 41 MPS upgrade to the CPU – IT expects utilization to drop once the transition is complete.

c. Library Systems

Y. Cooper provided a brief update on Library matters. They have purchased *Content DM* for managing their digital collections – it should be available by the end of the semester.

The Library is adding capacity to Millennium: they will pull all the systems

together into a single system.

There are some issues with FIU faculty, staff and students working at Jackson associated with the current approach to user authentication for periodical databases provided by the Library. This area must be addressed in order for UM to retain its licenses for access to these databases.

d. Telecommunications

S. Seruya gave the report. Telecommunications is planning for the upgrade of *CaneNet* – it is now 8 years old – this should occur over the summer. IT also expects to use *FLR* for intra-state long distance by the summer: this could provide as much as 80% coverage of Florida for outbound telephone calls from Miami. E-911 implementation is complete – see details under **e**.

e. Internet -- networking and security

S. Seruya gave the report submitted as Attachment C. Internet usage is nominal--no problems are apparent. Please note there are some artificial bounding problems in the report of the Medical School traffic (“flat top”).

E-911 traffic statistics were provided for the first time. Problem areas are being identified and addressed, that is, fax machines repetitively calling 911, *etc*. The large volume of Jackson Memorial Hospital 911 calls may require disconnection of the “77” service, if JMH Telecommunications is unable to filter these calls on their end.

Barry University is connecting to the Miami *FLR* hub for *Internet2* service.

f. Medical School IT/networking

No report.

3. Strategic Advice

a. Advice on major initiatives

i. Metro-network architecture

No report.

ii. CAS implementation

T. Ramsay provided an update to the ITAC. Priorities remain as articulated at the December ITAC meeting.

iii. New ID card framework

T. Ramsay stated that implementation is complete for the Gables and Rosenstiel campuses. All old cards have been deactivated. This item will be removed from future Agendas.

b. Academic Computing support

i. LA GRID

J. Blaire stated that Rosenstiel faculty are working with College of Engineering faculty to test this framework for computations. If this works out, he expects much broader use.

ii. IBM Boca *BlueGene* use/access

No update.

iii. IBM *p575+* and *Linux* options

J. Blaire commented that *IBM* has added 3TF and 6TF Intel cluster configurations to their *SURAGrid* offerings. *SURA* expects an additional option from *DELL*. Rosenstiel is planning to order a *p575+* system in the very near future, and, may order a second one should usage require it. There is a search in place for a director for the UM HPC effort with interviews in process.

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

B. Vilberg responded to ITAC queries concerning lead/first-adopters for A/V streaming and/or *BlackBoard* RSS A/V feeds. There are challenges with getting all the appropriate legal approvals in place to do a formal rollout of these capabilities.

c. IT Strategic Planning

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

T. Ramsay discussed the EDUCAUSE results and the need for an internal (UM) survey. ITAC advised IT to clear survey instrument with the IRB and move forward as expeditiously as possible.

Ramsay noted that IT has a draft strategic plan available: ITAC requested a copy be circulated ASAP. ITAC agreed to review the plan and attendant performance metrics at its next meeting.

There was an extended discussion concerning “academic computing” and the need for a discussion forum. ITAC agreed to

revise the strategic matters being discussed under **3a**.

4. Other Business

“University of Miami Data Classification Policy” was tabled due to the paucity of Committee representation.

ITAC agreed to hold a special meeting on March 20, 2007 where the Data Classification policy and the IT Draft Strategic Plan would be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1714.

NOTE: The next regularly scheduled ITAC meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2007 at 4:00 p.m., College of Engineering, McArthur Building, Room 289. The next meeting will be devoted to the two topics of Data Classification policy and the IT Draft Strategic Plan.