Learning with Technology Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2006

In attendance: Cathy Beise, Sam Galeta, Victoria Hutchinson, Marcy Losonczy-Marshall, Mike Scott, Melissa Thomas, Jerry Waldron

I. Membership:
   a. Deborah Harrington left SU. Melissa Thomas notified Brent Zaprowski that we need someone to replace her on the committee.
   b. Victoria Hutchinson will be on sabbatical leave this coming spring semester. She will notify Brent Zaprowski that she will need a replacement for that semester.

II. By-law changes update: Cathy will contact Darrell Mullins to see when the changes will be brought before the Faculty Senate.

III. WebCT:
   a. Melissa explained that WebCT and Blackboard are now one and the same company. They offer different products:
      i. Learning System
      ii. Learning System – Campus Edition (WebCT)
      iii. Learning System – Vista
   b. Jerry Waldron reported that SU has signed a 3 year agreement with Blackboard.
   c. SU will be moving to WebCT 6.0 this spring.
   d. Melissa gave the committee members a handout on how WebCT 6.0 is organized. It is more user friendly.
   e. Jerry stated that this committee should investigate various products to see which one we might use when our contract with Blackboard is up in 3 years. He stated that there are many new products out there, some of which are open source. Various school systems and colleges are looking into different ones:
      i. Angel
      ii. Moodle
      iii. SAKAI
      iv. Desire2Learn
   f. Committee members will send Melissa suggestions for a Project Team for Soaring with Online Learning who could help Melissa train faculty, etc.

IV. Minutes from the previous meeting (October 25, 2006) were approved with one minor correction. Marcy will make that change and resend the minutes to committee members.

V. Quality Matters
   a. Melissa gave a handout about this program, which is a way to assess and improve online courses.
   b. It involves peer review by other faculty who have taught an online course. Peer reviewers undergo training.
   c. Schools have to subscribe to Quality Matters; for a school the size of SU it would cost $3500/year.
d. The program offers workshops and online workshops to improve online courses.

e. Discussion centered on subscribing to it for one year, getting some peer reviewers here at SU, and then evaluate whether or not the subscription should continue.

f. The committee voted to write up such a proposal to present to the Faculty Senate. Cathy and Melissa will write the proposal, and send it to committee members for review. The proposal will be written by November 27, 2006. Mike will take the proposal to the Faculty Senate.

VI. ITunes University:
a. Jerry Waldron reported that he attended a demonstration of this by Apple for all USM schools. He then informed the IT Committee about it.
   i. This program is intended for faculty or university content.
   ii. It involves the use of podcasting and can upload audio and audio and video.
   iii. At the current time there is 500 GB available for “member” universities. Currently there is no fee.
   iv. This can be used in WebCT. A link in WebCT could connect students to I-Tunes, where they could listen to music that was uploaded as part of course content, or audio and video as part of course content. It is designed to be downloaded to the computer so that students could listen to music required in their course while at home.
   v. Two faculty will use this in the spring.

VII. Announcement: Jerry Waldron announced that the student Adobe agreement was signed yesterday. It will save students 80% of the cost.

VIII. The next meeting was scheduled for November 29, 2006 at 3:30 p.m. Items on the next agenda will include:
a. Authorware vs. Camtasia
b. Clickers
c. Course evaluations/scantrons

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Losonczy-Marshall