

## Information Technology Services Leadership Meeting

November 15, 2005

### Minutes

**Attendees:** Fayez Ahmad, Laura Artwell, Dave Dominish, Lev Gonick, Jeff Gumpf, Peggy Gup, John Haprian, Alan Hauptman, Barron Hulver, Priya Junnar, John Kane, Pat Kost, Dave Kovacic, Tony Kramar, Mike Kubit, Mace Mentch, John Morton, Nate Murphy, Colleen Nagy, Steven Organiscak, Rick Parkin, Beth Quinn, Chet Ramey, John Russell, Ron Ryan, Wendy Shapiro, Jill Tatem, Lora Veselsky

Pat called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. The minutes from October 7 were approved without changes, and will be posted later today on the ITS web site.

#### Educational Gaming

The idea behind Educational Gaming is to teach problem solving through game development. Looking at video games and learning from entertainment technology is new Case, and Mace is working on a gaming pilot project with Jared Bendis. Students are in transition between traditional learning techniques (i.e., books, lectures, TV), and a collaborative, multi-tasking, goal-oriented method. They are a game playing generation. A game is competition, conflict and fun. The number one complaint about video games is a poor or boring story. Game Design 101 will focus on the story with emphasis on an interactive scenario, rather than just story telling. There will be assignments for each game element: plot, character, game story, sound. The plan is to make the course into a game designing contest, and to make it competitive, there will be winners and losers. However, the game (product) will not affect the grade.

#### New Process for Independent Contractors

The staff in Procurement and Distribution Services has been working with Human Resources, General Counsel and the Office of Research Administration to consolidate ten different independent contractor forms into one form and one process, which will be administered by contract specialist, John Kane. John and Laura Artwell explained the new process, including when a new contract is required, steps for setting up an independent contractor in the system, generating a requisition for vendor payment, and guidelines for differentiating between an independent contractor and an employee. All contracts up to \$50,000 will now be signed in Procurement and Distribution Services, which should streamline both the contract process and the payment process. Complete details, including forms, are available on the P&D web site.

#### Oracle Collaboration Suite

Ron gave a live on-line OCS demo with John Sully on the other end. Oracle has now delivered the next release of the product we beta tested. Ron's team will work over the winter break to bring more people online.

### HTML Database Demonstration

HTMLDB is a fast, easy web-centric application which can be used to create applications from a variety of sources. For instance, an Access database or an Excel spreadsheet can be converted into a web application. HTMLDB constructs an application using "themes," which are named collections of templates that define the application user interface. Each theme contains templates for every type of application component and page control, including individual pages, regions, reports, lists, labels, menus, buttons and lists of values. The appearance of components and controls can be managed from one central location, and the users do not have to know HTML. HTMLDB comes with twelve standard themes, and is portal ready so you can display data, graphs and charts on the Case portal. Alan provided a link and access to the HTMLDB demo, and encouraged ITSL members to browse the application.

### ITS Scorecard

The purpose of the scorecard is to collect and disseminate information about ITS, and to function as the sole authoritative source of this information. ITS measures 47 metrics, each of which relates to one of the five strategic goals. These metrics can be seen on the MyCase ITS Scorecard portlet. Measurements of success include administrative/financial, communications, help desk, infrastructure performance, instructional technology, security, the Portal, research computing and storage and backup. Key performance indicators include application uptime, courseware/mediavision, email statistics, help desk response/satisfaction, and numbers of transactions, visitors and web hits. John said that we hope to go public with this in about a month.

Priya called for new business. John Morton advised that there will be a power shutdown over winter break which will affect Crawford Hall. John asked if January 7 was a convenient date for everyone. Colleen replied that that week is a very busy one for her department, and asked if this could be done while the University was closed during the week of December 26.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 am.