

## Information Technology Services Leadership Meeting

May 2, 2006

### Revised Minutes

**Attendees:** Fayaz Ahmed, Harry Berger, Roger Bielefeld, Dave Dominish, Nick Fischio, Lev Gonick, Jeff Gumpf, Peggy Gup, Alan Hauptman, Barron Hulver, Priya Junnar, Dave Kovacic, Tony Kramar, Mike Kubit, Bob Lanese, Irene Medvedev, Mace Mentch, Nate Murphy, Colleen Nagy, Steven Organiscak, Rick Parkin, Beth Quinn, John Russell, Ron Ryan, Wendy Shapiro, Tom Siu, Joe Smucny, Bob Sopko, Jill Tatem and Lora Veselsky

Lev called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The minutes from April 4 were approved as written.

#### HTML DB

Alan introduced Nick Fischio, applications development manager at KSL, and Bob Lanese from the Ireland Cancer Center, both satisfied users of HTML DB.

Nick reported that Application Express allows the user to build web applications that integrate with the Oracle database, forcing the user to start with the data, which cuts down on the number of layers and consequently, the number of tests. The package offers a lot of sample applications to build from, i.e., a sample survey which can be easily customized, depending on the user's expertise with relational databases. Sample applications can be found at [html.oracledb.com](http://html.oracledb.com). RSS feeds are available on the KSL web page.

Bob Lanese manages data for the clinical trials program at the Ireland Cancer Center. A third party vendor runs their clinical trials management system using a program called Encore. The Center used to have its own database administrator and two servers, one running the application and one running the database on a Windows 2000 platform. A virus attack shut down the computer for a month, after which they switched to Linux. Bob originally was in charge of administrative reports, training, etc., but had to cover the data role for the Encore system after the DBA left. He called Alan's group for ideas on backing up to the Case network and found out that EAS could host their server. Over a 3 to 4 month period, they moved the database onto the ITS cluster. Alan suggested Application Express (html db), which enables the user to generate reports in a secure environment and build applications in a reporting framework.

#### Research Computing

This endeavor resulted from a report by the Commission on Research and Graduate Education that came out about 2 years ago, which concluded that Case should invest in an advanced computational research facility staffed with central resources and including investment in grid computing. ITS would provide database and server hosting and

administration, storage and backup services and high bandwidth networking. Communications pieces include a web site, a monthly newsletter, a blog and wiki, publicity efforts and re-establishing contact with the Ohio Supercomputer Center. Governance is provided by an advisory committee which reports to the Faculty Senate Committee on Information Resources (FSCIR). There are currently 39 user accounts in 11 academic departments. Future directions for services include hardware hoteling services, increased pre-award IT consulting, grid services and visualization services.

### RFP Updates

ITS's first Integrated Technology Partnership (ITP) agreement was awarded to Sprint in April of 2001. The objective of this agreement was to facilitate purchasing of technology equipment for the gigabit network upgrade, wireless network installation, the VOIP project and maintenance on voice and data equipment. Case realized savings of approximately \$26 million over the duration of this agreement. It is now time to renew the ITP agreement, and the university requires that we put it out for competitive bidding. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on March 23, and proposals were due back on April 6. AT&T, IBM, MCPc and Sprint submitted proposals, and are scheduled to come to campus for detailed presentations. A cross-section of campus representatives have been invited to these presentations, including members of ITSPAC, FSCIR, CTOs and ITSL.

A Personal Computing Partnership agreement was inked with Dell Computer in July of 2002. This agreement is also up for renewal, and an RFP was issued on April 24 with responses due by June 1. The following vendors were asked to bid: Apple, Dell, Gateway, HP, Lenovo and Toshiba.

### Summer Plans/Priorities

**EAS** The Board approved the student upgrade; the objective is to shut down the mainframe. PeopleSoft Campus Solutions: Put student pictures into ISIS-P, which will be made available on the class list portlet of the portal; upgrade Ad Astra; add location codes to the online directory; fix the mailing list for HR; upgrade web services; build a test environment for the portal. Data Warehouse: Build an awards datamart; build a financials datamart; load the benefits into the PeopleSoft financials. Databases: Prep for July 07; upgrade 108 Oracle databases; Oracle security check list; upgrade HCM to 8.46. Financials: Finalize end-of-year; upgrade to version 8.9 before March '07 in order to get to Fusion.

**ITAC** The School of Medicine is a priority for summer and beyond, i.e., support for the new curriculum as well as media support. Work on the Science and Technology Center as per an NSF grant. Support for 22 MBA classes for WSOM's distance enhanced curriculum. ITS/ITAC is hosting the New Media Consortium (NMC) annual meeting and conference June 7-10. Professor Stacy Williams received a President's Research Initiative Grant for an interactive virtual reality project. ITAC will do four scenarios over the summer. Work continues on TEC upgrades, MediaVision courseware, videoconferencing and IPTV.

**TIS** Work with EMC to reduce costs and replace existing equipment with high-end EMC equipment. Activate the link to downtown. Work on Oracle Collaboration Suite. Due to the large incoming class in Fall, three additional residence halls will open on Carlton Road, and

need to have the network reactivated. Cisco Call Manager is due for a major upgrade, which will support SIP-based phone devices and will afford us a larger range of phone devices rather than we currently support.

**Security** Put together a committee to look at the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). Put together materials for a security orientation.

**PerceptIS** continues to focus on fall orientation, new programs requiring additional training, proactive troubleshooting, and overall campus marketing. They continue to investigate new self-help tools and now offer a live data feed for performance management.

**Archives** Jill advised that, effective July 1, Archives will transfer out of ITS and become a part of University Library.

**Communications** In preparation for her departure at the end of May, Priya has been transitioning her duties to Lora. She is currently working on an analysis of the annual survey results, a bibliography, the newsletter, an e-bulletin and a brochure for admitted students.

Lev introduced Irene Medvedev from the School of Medicine's Academic Technology Group. Irene will be joining ITAC, reporting to Wendy Shapiro.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.