

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TFAC) MEETING
Thursday, April 26, 2011, 9:00 a.m., Memorial Union Peace Garden Room
Meeting Notes by CeCe Rohwedder
Approved on October 19, 2012

Present: Rian Nostrum, Chair; Jake Bechtold, Anne Denton, Gary Fisher, Jim Hammond, Jarrett Hart, Tanya Kramer, Tyrell Martin, Galen Mayfield, Chris Nelson, DK Yoon, CeCe Rohwedder
Absent: Sydney Hull, David Wittrock

Rian called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Motion (Hammond/Fisher) to approve the minutes of the Dec. 9, 2011, Feb. 24, 2012, March 5, 2012, and March 21, 2012 meetings as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

Action Plan #1214 [Moving Apparel Pattern Making into the Digital Age]

Discussion: This project would only benefit 50-75 students per year. However, though this number is small, the students will be better trained and represent NDSU better in the work force they join. There is a tie-in with industry similar to that with the Commodities Trading Room; the latter has procured industry grant funds, so perhaps that can be done in this case, as well. If the department were to get partial funding through an industry grant, the TFAC may be more inclined to make up the difference, as it would strengthen the indication of the industry's support of our programs and students.

Motion (Hart/Nelson) to fully fund Action Plan #1214 at \$23,620.00.

Motion amended (Nelson/Hart) to not fund Action Plan #1214 and ask the Project Director to approach industry for a grant. Amendment carried unanimously.

Vote on the motion to not fund Action Plan #1214 and ask the Project Director to approach industry for a grant: Motion carried unanimously.

Action Plan #1215 [Broadcasting Technology Maintenance]

Discussion: This is innovative technology because it is new technology that the Thunder Radio DJs can use; also, it is required in order for them to meet FCC licensing requirements. They have not sought out other sources of funding at NDSU; if needed, they could approach Student Government for funds, but funding must be secured before the FCC license deadline.

Motion (Hammond/Hart) to fully fund Action Plan #1215 at \$11,357.26. Motion carried (9 yes, 1 abstention).

Action Plan #1216 [Center for Writers Session Video Recordings: Enhancing Training, Expanding Service]

Discussion: This would be used by both tutors and students at CFW, after receiving permission of the parties involved. The equipment itself is not innovative, but the process it would enable is; it would use recordings of stellar performances as examples, and it would identify areas in need of work in the rest. It is based on a similar program at another institution at which the Project Director

worked. The committee felt that the project could also be used by the Career Center for practice interviews.

Motion (Hammond/Denton) to fully fund Action Plan #1216 at \$783.50. Motion carried unanimously.

Action Plan #1217 [Enhancing Advisor/Student Contact to Improve Advising: A Pilot Project]

Discussion: There is concern that the College of Science and Math is only offering \$300 as a match, and there is no funding included in the project for ongoing costs. Starfish has contacted both DCE and NDUS and was met with interest. Other possibilities for getting the information needed to coordinate advising at a lower cost should be explored; such exploration may include consultation with the IT Division on how to gather the information that NDSU already has. The source of student dissatisfaction with academic advising is not clearly identified in the proposal. The project would focus beyond graduation requirements and make sure problems with a student's academic performance would be forwarded to the student's advisor, who currently cannot access it (it is entered on Blackboard by the instructor). Currently the onus to seek help is on the student, not the advisor, but in the Math department, students don't customarily meet with their advisors. DK Yoon pointed out that in his department there is an internal method for providing to faculty by midterm information on students' academic distress, and it is effective. There have been discussions on such projects before, and there are many types of software that can assist; if TFAC invests in this project and NDSU and/or NDUS select a different method and process that utilizes a different type of software, the TFAC investment will have been for naught. About 12-18 months ago, DCE had a great interest in early warning signs software, recognizing the need to satisfy the federal requirements for institutions to prove academic success, and discussions were held with IT about it, but nothing was pursued.

Motion (Nelson/Bechtold) to not fund Action Plan #1217. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional Discussion: the TFAC realizes that this is an important project, and that the university's concern should be addressed, and this can perhaps best be done by NDSU's academic advising committee.

Action Plan #1218 [Lecture Capture Functionality in Stevens Auditorium Remodeling]

Discussion: Utilization of taped lectures by the students, and the possibility that they will cause them to not attend class were questioned. However, some studies have shown that Lecture Capture actually increases class attendance. When taking online courses through DCE, this technology would be useful, but if a student takes a face-to-face class, it would not; this thought is shared by many students. There is a sense that NDUS is pressing this upon its institutions, so we might as well jump on board. We had previously funded this technology; now there is more demand to expand it. The Project Director indicated that the IT Division has received many requests from faculty in various departments for this equipment. The equipment is transferrable from one class space to another. There are faculty concerns with using this technology, one of them being the cost of storage, which accumulates from one semester to the next. Faculty like being able to go back and reuse old lectures – a good option for emergencies – but if the cost is great, it is considered prohibitive. Another concern is intellectual property issues, when the faculty member who created the lecture and the tape has to pay to store it. As a component of the NDUS Maximizing Results through Efficiencies memo, NDUS will be making decisions on Lecture Capture, with individual institutions' perspectives not taken into account. NDUS has selected the

Tegrity software for this, but it is up to each institution to install it. The project proposed by Action Plan #1218 does not indicate that future funding has been secured.

Motion (Fisher/Hammond) to fully fund Action Plan #1218 at \$24,500.00.

Additional Discussion: the equipment could be moved from Stevens Auditorium to another space, if there is need for that at some point. If there is large usage of this technology, NDUS will purchase a larger license for the institutions. The TFAC sees such proposals regularly; instead, we should be looking at open source alternatives, especially for Blackboard, and plan years ahead of time, but faculty input is needed re needs and preferences. Faculty and the IT Division are in agreement on such, but we have to decide how to approach NDUS re conflicting initiatives. There is need of a campus plan to replace this equipment rather than keep buying it.

Vote on the motion, to fully fund Action Plan #1218 at \$24,500.00: Motion carried unanimously.

Action Plan #1219 [Blackboard Mobile]

Discussion: This project is renewal of the license for another year. Course content, embedded in Blackboard by faculty, is included. This technology has been extensively used; however, going forward we should be aware that other solutions can provide the interface for free.

Motion (Nelson/Hart) to fully fund Action Plan #1219 at \$24,000.00 and request of the Project Director that a phase-out plan be put in place for the anticipated move to another solution. Motion carried (8 yes, 2 no).

Action Plan #1220 [Renaissance Hall “Thinking Space”]

Discussion: The space would be utilized primarily spontaneously, though it could also be scheduled through the department on a limited basis. It is intended for use by students who have classes at Renaissance Hall, both in the programs offered there and others.

Motion (Hammond/Denton) to fully fund Action Plan #1220 at \$7,397.00. Motion carried unanimously.

RANKING OF APPROVED PROPOSALS

At the request of Marc Wallman, Interim VPIT, the approved proposals were ranked as follows:

- #1 Proposal #1215 [Broadcasting Technology Maintenance]
- #2 Proposal #1216 [CFW Session Video Recordings...]
- #3 Proposal #1220 [Renaissance Hall “Thinking Space”]
- #4 Proposal #1218 [Lecture Capture Functionality in Stevens Auditorium Remodeling]
- #5 Proposal #1219 [Blackboard Mobile]

CeCe will schedule a meeting between Marc and Rian for presentation and discussion of the committee’s recommendations.

OTHER BUSINESS

The purpose of tomorrow’s meeting is to discussed the proposed amendments to the group’s Bylaws, which were presented prior to this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.