

**STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TFAC) MEETING**  
**Friday, February 14, 2014, 2 p.m., Memorial Union Prairie Room**  
**Meeting Notes by CeCe Rohwedder**  
**Approved on October 3, 2014**

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**Present (11 voting members plus chair):** Rian Nostrum, Colette Bersie (proxy for Preston Gilderhus), Anne Denton, Gary Fisher, Jim Hammond, Tanner Langley (proxy for Michelle Sauvageau), Megan Matejcek (proxy for Drew Spooner), Chris McEwen, Amy Nash (proxy for Dienul Paramarta), Jean Ostrom-Blonigen, Sarah Russell, David Wittrock, CeCe Rohwedder

**Absent:** Tanya Kramer, Matt Okner, Dienul Paramarta, Michelle Sauvageau, Drew Spooner, Anita Welch

The minutes of the January 14, 2014 meeting were approved as presented.

**Review of Action Plans received for the \$50,000 available for awards**

General discussion of all Action Plans received was held, as follows:

**#1401, “Cloud Observation and Collection,” Adnan Akyuz, Project Director (PD), ND Agricultural Weather Network, AES. \$6,800.00 requested**

This plan calls for an effective process, and the PD has been awarded before. There is potential for expansion to K-12 outreach and to the development of an application. There will likely be minimal involvement by central IT.

**#1402, “Digital Camera Replacement for Remote Broadcasting,” Mark Meister, PD, Bison Information Network (BIN). \$34,287.37 requested**

SU TV is the university-owned channel, managed by BIN. Almost 70 events were produced by BIN since 2011. Currently BIN can only commit to producing one event at a time, though it has produced two at a time. This request is for upgrades, however, when BIN was originally awarded, they were told they would need to take care of replacements necessary to improve quality and service. The Spectrum’s share of the Media Advisory Board (MAB)’s funding can be decreased by \$20,000 per year, which could be applied to BIN.

[Anne Denton arrived, at 2:15 p.m.]

MAB’s structure, bylaws and fund allocations would need to be re-evaluated for such redistribution of funds.

**#1403, “Online Tutoring through Smarthinking,” Casey Peterson, PD, ACE Tutoring Center. \$56,550.00 requested**

TFAC cannot provide the entire amount requested, and members are wondering if the department would come up with the difference in order to be able to run the program. The PD indicated a smaller award would be accepted. The cost for this program is \$29.00 per hour, under and NDUS-negotiated contract. Assessments are planned to gauge the program’s use and success. ACE has several funding sources, primarily Athletics; a case could be made to Athletics to ultimately assume costs to continue.

**#1404, “3D Printer Filament Processing System,” Chad Ulven and Ben Bernard, PDs, Mechanical Engineering, Architecture & Landscape Architecture (ALA) and NDSU Libraries. \$15,350.00 requested**

This is a two-year program, with the first year's expenses for materials and the second year's expenses for student salaries. The system would be housed in the library. This project would lower 3D printing costs, enabling more students to use the printer.

**#1405, "Concert Facilities Technology Upgrade – Installed Projection," Ana Rusness-Peterson, PD, Performing Arts – Concert Facilities. \$74,977.46 requested**

Funding from other sources has been secured by the department for other needs. The School of Music received a sizable donation this week.

**#1406, "Memorial Union (MU) Conference Room Technology Improvements," Paul Wraalstad, PD, MU. \$17,100.00 requested**

The project calls for six of the 10 conference rooms at MU being upgraded so the existing four media carts can remain permanently in the other four rooms, along with computers. Partial funding is acceptable to the PD. Due to the recently approved increase to student fees, MU received approximately \$90,000 in increased funding; this is to be mostly used for repairs to the elevator.

**Funding considerations**

**#1402: M to approve #1402 at 50% of the amount requested (Fisher/Langley).**

Discussion: TFAC should consider asking the PD to find a different revenue stream in the future. Some students would benefit in their educational goals and training through this project, but how much would the entire student body benefit, and how much are student groups benefitting by the public relations value it would provide?

[David Wittrock left the meeting, at 2:45 p.m.]

It is of concern that this organization was funded before – TFAC is meant to fund new and innovative technologies.

**Vote: 3 yes, 8 no. Motion defeated.**

**#1404: M to fully fund #1404 at \$15,350.00 (Russell/McEwen).**

Discussion: the 3D printers at the library are more user-friendly than those in Engineering. This is new technology that is sustainable, and only two other universities in the United States have it available. Several departments expressed interest in using these printers in their classrooms. This project will lower the cost – not make the availability of the printers possible.

**Vote: 10 yes, 1 abstention. MSC.**

**#1403: M to fund #1403 at \$15,000.00, amended to fund #1403 at \$14,500.00 (McEwen/Langley).**

Discussion: the award notification should make it clear that this is a one-time award and ask the PD to inform the TFAC know within a specified amount of time if the reduced funding awarded will be acceptable, and if not, return it within a specified time so that it does not remain tied up and unavailable for other uses. There was agreement that an acceptance deadline for all awards should be set. Tutoring is a source of income for student tutors, and it provides them with valuable experience; it is also cheaper to hire students. A lot of students don't like online tutoring, but online tutoring makes it available 24/7 and everywhere, so both tutoring deliveries are needed. Beta-testing is a good idea.

The motion was tabled.

**#1401 and #1406: M to fully fund #1401 and award the remaining funds available to award to #1406 provided that the PD of #1406 can find the remaining funding necessary to finish the fifth conference room (Ostrom-Blonigen/Russell).**

The motion was tabled.

**#1405: M to not fund #1405 (Hammond/McEwen).**

Discussion: it is unfortunate that there is no report on this project. The project does not appear to the committee to be sufficiently innovative, rather, it appears to be more of an equipment upgrade.

**Vote: MSC unanimously.**

**#1401 and #1406, con'd: M to split the question, vote on #1401 first and then on #1406 (McEwen/Ostrom-Blonigen).**

Discussion: #1406 is not sufficiently innovative and appears to be an attempt to fill a budget gap.

Vote on #1406 was tabled.

**Vote on #1401: 5 yes, 5 no; chair's vote needed to break the tie.** Tabled.

**#1403: vote on M to fund #1403 at \$14,500.000. MSC unanimously.**

**#1406: vote on awarding #1406 with any funds remaining of the \$50,000.00 available to award, provided that the PD of #1406 can find the remaining funding necessary to finish the fifth conference room. 3 yes, 8 no. Motion defeated.**

**#1401: chairs vote is no. Motion defeated.**

Meeting adjourned.