

NDSU INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Delivering core solutions and propelling innovation

TECHNOLOGY FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 9 a.m.

QBB 206E

MEETING NOTES - DRAFT

Present: Marc Wallman, VPIT; Anne Denton, Chair; Mari Borr, Ian Burnham, Stephanie Day, Jeff Dertinger, Jerry Gao, Nafiz Rifat (for Robert Henderson), Carl Ludewig, Marisa Mathews, Jordan Nitsch, Michael Russell, Melissa Stotz, David Wittrock; CeCe Rohwedder

Unable to attend: Robert Henderson, Kenneth Mbuba, Adam Muske

Guest: Mark Nawrot

1. **M for the notes of the 9/30/19 meeting to be approved as presented (Jeff/Jordan); MSC.**
2. Marc gave a presentation (attached) and led a discussion of technology needs and potential cuts:
 - A. Conversations of IT with Facilities Management and the Registrar's office were held about identifying spaces that could perhaps be de-instrumented. The goal is to not propose cuts to the IT Division's budget that would end up being passed on to other departments.
 - B. From a faculty perspective, NDSU has a large number of spaces which include desktop computers – this is so that students who cannot bring laptops, as well as laptops with the necessary software on them, to class, have access to a computer when needed.
 - C. It would be easier for students to use personal laptops and not have to transfer data after class, but there are issues with software licensing: sometimes it is not an option to obtain licenses for personal devices; virtual desktops might resolve the latter. The students present at this meeting indicated that they and most students they know bring their laptops to class and prefer to use their own vs. computers in classes/labs.
 - D. It is not always possible to let new students know what types of laptops to purchase/bring to campus – the requirements vary by discipline. New students are asked to check with their advisor regarding what specifications will be needed for their laptop, but there is a challenge if/when students change majors.
 - E. In some cases, it is necessary for students to use labs, for example when group work is required for which software is needed that is only available in specific labs.
 - F. Maybe some computer labs featuring desktops can be converted to labs that would accommodate students' personal laptops and have a few laptops available as backups; there are logistical challenges to this concept, in terms of nightly backups.

- G. There are many variables, with corresponding costs, for the types, versions and number of software we can acquire and make available to campus.
 - H. Overall, most disciplines at NDSU have switched to Windows.
 - I. There is quantitative data available that would help identify the level of usage of specific computer labs/instrumented classrooms. Qualitative data will also be needed as we continue to review overall use and needs. It would be helpful to know if faculty want to use specific spaces because of the fact that there are computers available or because there are certain types of software loaded on those computers.
 - J. We currently have about 100 pieces of software in the various teaching and learning spaces, both per the standard and as requested by faculty.
 - K. The refresh schedule followed at NDSU corresponds to the manufacturer warranties, though at times it is possible to extend the refresh time somewhat, per industry best practices.
 - L. There is a sense that instructor computer stations are not upgraded as much, and as needed, as the student computer stations.
 - M. Marc shared documentation of recommended budget cuts for the present and upcoming fiscal years (attached). Any proposed cuts will be discussed with the Provost for guidance in terms of whether the impact of such cuts to teaching and learning would be acceptable.
 - N. Student Government will conduct a "Tuesday Twos" poll to get a sense of what devices students currently use.
3. Consideration of requesting an increase to the student technology fee: a discussion of representatives of units featuring mandatory fees has been scheduled for Nov. 1.
4. Changes to Action Plans (on Blackboard):
None
5. Action Plan reports:
- A. Fiscal year-end reports received since the last TFAC meeting (on Bb):
None
 - B. Completion reports received since the last TFAC meeting (on Bb):
None
6. The committee will meet again when statistical data has been gathered and analyzed; Marc will present recommendations.
7. The meeting was adjourned.