Engineering Student Technology Committee

Meeting minutes for February 20th, 2009 – Titan Studio Classroom – 3:30 pm

Present: Brad Reichel (CEE), Prof. Mazdak Arabi (CEE), Mark Ritschard (ENS), Prof. Tom Bradley (ME), Ross Bulkley (ME), Hannah Hudson (ME), Mark Berrill (ECE)

Absent: David Grzenia (CBE), Leah Belval (ECE), Prof. Ricky Kwok (ECE), Tom Siller (ACAD)

Introductions and Attendance

Corrections to previous minutes
None

2009-2010 Budget
   A brief overview of the budgeting process was discussed. Everyone agreed they understood the basic process and where they could access data from the previous year's budget.

GIS Lab Funding
   The proposal set forth by Dr. Garcia to increase funding for the GIS lab so that the currently funded Sunrays could be replaced with new computers and be maintained by the replacement cycle. The committee unanimously agreed and the vote passed. A rider to the proposal was that then number of funded computers in the lab be increased to 34. This vote also passed, with the stipulation that the CEE department fund the necessary desks and network connections for the new machines.

Card Readers for the Engineering Research Center (ERC)
   The proposal set forth by Dr. Thornton to add a total of 4 card readers to the ERC was discussed. The proposal included 2 exterior readers and two interior readers that would control access to two conference rooms. The committee questioned why the Charge for Technology should be used to fund readers for the two conference rooms and agreed that those should not be included without further explanation. There was discussion about the need for 2 exterior readers and it was decided that one reader would be adequate for the building. A vote was held to fund up to $3000 for one card reader to be placed on the exterior of the ERC. The vote passed unanimously.

Should there be a summer charge?
   The possibility of including a summer technology fee that would be assessed on any student enrolled in engineering classes was discussed. The committee reviewed the typical number of students who only attend classes in the summer and quickly determined that the summer fee would be of no significant benefit without unfairly increasing the charge for year round students. The possibility was unanimously rejected.

Need for Additional Citrix Licenses

It was proposed that additional Citrix licenses be purchased to alleviate the recent high virtual lab usage that resulted in users not being able to log in. There was some discussion of who uses the virtual lab and for what purpose. The committee choose to table the proposal awaiting usage information from Engineering Network Services.

Media Stations to Supplement Sunrays

Mark R. brought to attention that it may be nice have media stations in locations where there are large numbers of Sunrays. The committee understood that there has not been any formal request for the media stations and there was agreement that there exist enough options already for students to overcome the limitations of the Sunrays. It was agreed that media stations would not be added. The committee also agreed that they may be open to the idea if there were requests from students.