

Engineering Student Technology Committee

Meeting minutes for 3/27/09

Replacement Servers

CJ Keist addressed the committee and explained the need for replacement student file servers. At issue were the new quotas for disk space for students and the allotment for classes. After hearing recommendations from CJ, it was unanimously agreed that the new student disk quota allotment would be 6 gigabytes with expansion to 20 gigabytes to be allowed with a request from a faculty member on behalf of the student. It was also unanimously agreed that the classes folder allotment should be increased to 5 terabytes.

Apple Xserver Installation

CJ Keist brought before the committee the possibility and cost of introducing an Apple Xserver to the engineering network. No such server currently exists. The quoted price for an Apple Xserver with a 10-15 user capacity would be \$4000. It was noted that Citrix style licenses would be necessary to use access the server from Sunray clients. The cost per Citrix style licenses would be \$200 each. In comparison, the currently used Thin Servers which support the Sunray system are priced at \$7500 each with a 20 user capacity. The cost of the Citrix license is also more expensive at a cost of \$260 dollars each. No formal proposal was made to introduce Xservers to the network and no vote was cast. This was only an information gathering session and it was decided that the committee would need more time and information in order to determine the need for Apple Xservers. It was suggested that questions about the desire for Apple access and if it would encourage more Sunray usage be included in the next ENS survey. Mark R. creates these surveys. He stated that he would include them in an upcoming user survey.

ESTC Recruitment

There was short discussion of how to prepare for committee recruitment for the upcoming 2009-2010 term. It was decided that the student organizations for each engineering discipline should be contacted to help fill seats on the committee.

General Review of Budget

There was short discussion of the budget and if anyone had issues to discuss. Focus was placed upon the Intra-Departmental fund and how the fund was intended to be spent. It was concluded that the fund should be used to make purchases that benefited the college as a whole and specifically, students enrolled in an intra-disciplinary program. In other words, the fund was not to be used to buy equipment or make changes that would benefit particular department.

Also discussed was how each department used annual funds distributed by the committee. There was concern expressed about the amount of the budget used to purchase software and the potential for lost opportunities to purchase equipment. Currently, there are very light restrictions upon the percentage which must be spent on improvements other than software. The possibility of a 'piggy bank' was suggested. The idea was that a portion of each department's budget would be withheld for special projects. The idea was largely rejected due to the need for each department to come address the committee and request their allotment of funds back for special projects.

ESTC Meeting Agenda 3/27/09

- Replacement Servers (CJ) *new quotas (6GB/20GB) 5TB for classes*
- Apple Xserver Installation (CJ)
- ESTC Recruitment *poll students (pref for OS) (would you use MacOS)
on thin clients?*
- General Review of Budget *would you use Sun Rays more*
- Strategic Initiatives Fund Possibilities