Meeting Minutes of the Engineering Student Technology Committee (ESTC)

Meeting: 27 February 2014
5:00 p.m. in Engineering B203 (Titan Studio Classroom)

In Attendance: Professor Rebecca Atadero (CE), Brett Basarab (ATS), Nicholas Davis (ATS), Vaishak Gopi (CE), Dan Herrick (ENS, ex officio), Valene Lickley (CE), Mark Lunt (CBE), Professor Chris O'Dell (ATS), Professor Sourajeet Roy (ECE), Professor Christopher Snow (CBE), Jessica Tryner (ME), Tyler Wible (CE)

Not in Attendance: Brett Baeverstad (CBE), Sanjay Derbyshire (ECE), Patrick Fitzhorn (ME), Tanner Fretthold (ME), Ryan Friese (ECE), Sunny Lunka (CBE), Ben Melia (Intra-departmental), Alex Mitchell (ME), Dalton Noren (Intra-departmental), Professor Tom Siller (ADAA, ex officio), Patrick Stockton (ECE)

Guests: Angie Addie (ENS)

Approval of meeting minutes (11/15/13 & 2/6/14)

Minutes from 11/15/13 and 2/6/14 were approved.

Review Peak times in computer labs

There was discussion of the data that Herrick compiled and sent to the committee via e-mail. Someone asked about what happened to Stardust and Herrick explained that the College reallocated the space and the computers from Stardust were moved to Magellan. There was a suggestion to put up digital signage with lab seat availability. Herrick mentioned that this could be easily incorporated into one of the proposals he made.

Internet Cafe re-design options

Wible and Herrick presented some ideas for remodeling the Internet Cafe. They presented a short-term plan and several long-term options. The committee was enthusiastic about the plans for a long-term remodel, but additional funding will need to be obtained from the college before any facilities remodeling can begin.

Installing GIMP

GIMP has been installed on all computers, thin clients, and Virtual Lab. Photoshop and Dreamweaver have been uninstalled. ENS will put out flyers making students aware of this change.

Proposals

There was a quick review of proposals and the committee discussed whether they felt each proposal had merit.

Based upon this initial review, the following decisions were made:

- The committee denied the Powerhouse Chiller and Sample Pump proposal.
- The committee approved the Windows XP Replacement Pool
- The committee approved the Internet Cafe short term remodel.
- The committee approved partial funding of the ASCE Conference Devices and ASCE office equipment proposals.

- The committee proposed 50% matching cost shares to the sponsors of the RF/Wireless Experiment Workbench and the Geotechnical Engineering Lab DAQ proposals. The sponsors will be given a deadline of March 11 to respond.
- The committee proposed substituting thin clients for desktop workstations in the Powerhouse Energy computers proposal, which saves $7,700. The sponsor will be given a deadline of March 11 to respond to this.
- The committee asked the sponsors of the following proposals to present and/or answer questions at the next meeting: RF/Wireless Experiment Workbench, ASCE Concrete Canoe Batch Mixers.

There was discussion of funding both the Biomedical Engineering Teaching Laboratory Computer and the WMEP Computer Lab as budget line items in the FY15 budget.

The committee decided to tentatively defer the additional $5,456.30 for the Scott building commitment to the FY15 budget.

Student wages

Herrick mentioned a concern that has come up that ENS does not have anyone staffing the help desk on the weekends. He asked the committee if there was any interest in pursuing expanding the budget to accommodate some staffing on the weekends. The committee was disinterested in pursuing this since there has not been significant demand for this.

Next meeting

The plan for the next meeting will be to finalize decisions about the remaining proposals and start on the FY15 budget review. The committee agreed to meet next Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned – 6:56 p.m.