

ESTC Minutes
Engineering Student Technology Committee
March 7, 2023
4-5pm Scott Bio 205

Present:

ATS: Nick Falk, Eric Goldenstern, Prof. Steve Miller

CBE: Parsa Ghadermazi

CEE: Branch DeMersseman

ECE: Aaron Davis

ME: Jaren Fleischman, Miguel Valles Castro

SE: Fletcher Ouren

SMBE: Jaiden Oropallo

Ex-Officio: Kelley Branson (ETS)

Guests: Laura Marker (ETS), Travis Rogers (ETS), Nick Stratton (ETS), Lisa Metz (ETS)e

Absent:

ATS:

CBE: Prof. Chris Snow

CEE: Julie Robinson, Jiate Li, Prof. Jordan Jarrett

ECE: Luke Shuttleworth, Amin Mahdian, Mahdi Nikdast

ME: Ross Leopold (Chair), Prof. Kirk McGilvray

SE: Prof. Daniel Herber

SMBE:

Ex-Officio: Prof. Karan Venayagamoorthy (Academic Affs)

Old Business & Welcome

Welcome and Minutes

- Kelley welcomed everyone. Ross could not make the meeting, so Kelley acted as chair. A sign-in sheet was passed around.
- The minutes from the February 23, 2023 meeting were approved with a minor correction (need to list Miguel Valles Castro as having submitted the minutes and not Prof. Steve Miller). These and other ESTC documents are available to ESTC members at the following: T:\Committees\ESTC
If you are unable to get into this drive space, let Kelley know.
- Unfilled positions remain the same from the previous meeting
- Kelley encourages everyone on the committee to look at the budget on the T-drive

Old Business & Announcements

none

New Business / FY24 Budget Work

- Computer Lab Equipment Replacement
 - The budget spreadsheet was updated prior to this meeting to include changes approved in the previous meeting.
 - Kelley noted that the HP contract will be expiring, this may lead to lower prices for computers due to increased competition.
 - Steve asked if changes to the Scott Data Center could affect this part of the budget. Nick answered that while not directly, with more servers in the datacenter some workstations could be replaced with thin clients which would save money.
 - The Computer Lab Equipment Replacement line item was approved by a unanimous vote.
- Server Equipment and Replacement
 - Kelley noted that, while there could be some savings here, this is not “low hanging fruit” in the budget and is hard to cut. Better to keep it as is to keep the budget conservative.
 - The Server Equipment and Replacement line item was approved by a unanimous vote.
- Server Maintenance and Support
 - The Server Maintenance and Support line item was approved by a unanimous vote.
- Loaner Pool
 - Lisa discussed the computers and laptops available in the loaner pool. It was suggested that in the future we may want to reduce the number of available laptops and replace them with fewer laptops with better specs. Adding a survey when checking out or returning a laptop may help us collect data on how they are used. Lisa collects usage information on the loaner pool. Usage decreased during the pandemic but is now increasing. At the end of each fiscal year, we get more information about usage.
 - A cable/dongle checkout was discussed. The committee generally thought it was a good idea which should be implemented in the future. Lisa noted that small things such as these have a higher possibility of ‘walking away’.
 - The Loaner Pool line item was approved by a unanimous vote. Thus all lines in Central Services and Systems have been approved
- Wages
 - Student wages have little “fringe”, most of the wages paid go directly to the students. Student employees frequently use federal work-study money, they can continue to work for ETS even if their work study is used up. ETS pays above minimum wage to get quality student employees. These wages go up for the longer a student has worked for ETS. Both the Academic Technology Manager and Student Wages line items were approved unanimously by the committee.

Final Comments / Next Meeting

Steve brought up that there is still a significant amount (~\$28k) that needs to be cut from the budget. Kelley suggested that these cuts could come from the department allocations or from the I2P Lab. Kelley noted that in the past there were no department allocations, and if we cut department allocations and received higher than expected funds, we could put Laura noted that the Lab Managers may be expecting more money for their labs given the increase in the CFT, but this is probably not going to happen given that more still needs to be cut from the budget.

Next meeting on Thursday, March 9th is in the ATS West Conference Room at the Foothills campus. Kelley will send an email with directions.

Note the meeting scheduled for March 23rd has been moved to April 6th

Meeting adjourned at 4:59 pm

Respectfully submitted by Nick Falk with modifications and additions from Kelley