

Wayne State University  
Academic Senate  
Minutes of the Facilities, Support Services, and Technology Committee Wednesday,  
February 13, 2008

In attendance: David Cinabro, Thomas Killion, Joe Sawasky, Derek Wildman, Marilyn Zimmerman and Judy Field, Chair

Absence with notice: Brian Edwards, James Garbern, Russell Yamazaki

Absence: Ravi Dhar, Daniel Rappolee, Lothar Spang

Guests: Jim Sears, Associate V-P Facilities, Planning and Management

In response to the question, how was his operation impacted by the monies that came back to the University in the form of one-time money and permanent money; Jim Sears said that his operating budget was increased for custodial equipment and items like elevator maintenance. He then went on to say that 14 of the 20 deferred maintenance items that he presented at the September meeting have been initiated with two projects actually approved and another 2-3 projects almost ready to be submitted for the approval.

Sears went on to ask for some input from the committee regarding instructional technology infrastructure requirements for the first floor of Manoogian and State Hall classrooms. Work on Manoogian and State Hall are planned to start at the end of the winter 2008 semester, so input is needed now. Several suggestions were proposed in designing new smart classrooms including designing two or three smart classroom models. It was felt that not all the faculty need the same level of technology for their instruction. The smart classrooms in Cohn were mentioned. The equipment is housed in a secured closet, would some adaptation of this be workable. There was little support for more carts that are locked down. It was also discussed could chalkboards be removed and replaced by boards with markers, whiteboards or electronic boards. The maintenance of rooms with chalkboards is uneven and the chalk creates a lot of dust not good for equipment. Various configurations were discussed.

At the end of the discussion it was decided that Jim Sears would continue to work with Dick Dunbar on decisions regarding wiring and Joe Sawasky would discuss these issues with Sandra Yee during their weekly meetings. Jim then said that Journalism was relinquishing their computer labs in Manoogian on the first floor and with special funding building new computer labs on the fifth floor. This will provide an opportunity to create model smart classrooms.

Prior to Jim leaving he was asked if there were any remodeling plans for FAB. He said no funds had been provided to do any remodeling so he had no plans to do any work in FAB.

With the advent of a new university president, it was thought that this would be the time to raise the issue of how should the technology platform for the university be improved to prove more consistent and more technologically advanced vision of technology.

Joe went on to inform the committee that the university system had been experiencing firewall problems, February 13. Normally the system switches over to the secondary firewall, but for some reason this was not being effective. Their maintenance provider is working on this and if not resolved in a timely manner, another maintenance firm will be contacted to resolve this issue.

The question was raised why WSU made the decision to purchase old servers from the University of Indiana and was this decision sending the wrong message. The servers were purchased at less than a tenth of their original price and were compatible with the C&IT system.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07.

Future meetings in FAB 1279:

- Wednesday March 26: **Note new date**
- Wednesday April 9
- Wednesday May 14 (tentative, in case we have unfinished business)