Annual Report

CCSU Information Technology Committee
for AY 2014-15

Special Fall Election
Election of chair for 2014-15: Since the final ITC meeting fell before the results of the faculty senate's election were finished, the election of leadership positions were delayed from Spring 2014 until the first meeting of fall 2014. Gustavo Mejia (vice chair for 2013-14) managed the elections. Election results: Charles Menoche-Chair, Jason Melnyk-Vice Chair, and (initially pending outcome of fall run-off election) Jen Piatek-secretary.

Annual/reoccurring tasks 2014-2015

As has become a yearly task, the Software subcommittee solicited, evaluated, and ranked software requests for 2015-2016. It was noted that once again this year it was only able to approve upgrades and maintenance fees of software already installed and in use in classes and labs. It was suggested that additional/new requests should still be submitted to the Software Subcommittee concurrently with submissions to general budget and one-time requests (usually moving up from Chair, to Dean, etc.). The subcommittee's suggestions were approved by the ITC. It was noted that over $44,000 of new/first-time requests were submitted. In discussions during ITC meetings, it was also noted the static budget for instructional software is increasingly challenging for the University and now beginning to negative impact on student success and curriculum innovations.

Building on last-year's goal, the Hardware/Facilities Technology Subcommittee reported that a new online form was created for H/F Technology requests. Faculty and staff were encouraged to submit requests that seemed technology-related, even if the item seemed outside of ITC-specific needs. Such submissions might then be routed to an appropriate next step and help facilitate coordination of efforts and needs. The committee noted that it is shifting towards improvements and maintenance activities, since expansion needs and requests have slowed down significantly in the recent years.

Committee Activities (discussions and feedback)

The committee revised the committee by-laws due to reassignment of some departmental reassignments and the renaming of schools/colleges. Due to timing of senate committee elections and end of the semester (see note above), the committee approved piloting a one-time experiment with on-line voting for leadership positions for 2015-16. If pilot proves successful, additional by-law revisions will be proposed in the fall.

Throughout the year: the committee focused on a number of ongoing IT-related questions, initiatives, and complaints: serving as a conduit and sounding board between the general University (faculty and administration) and CCSU's ITS. The most significant topics and items are listed below.

- Success of multiple Faculty Institutes for instructional technology training for FT and PT faculty. Two were held during the 2014 summer, several were held during the AY, and at least two are planned for summer 2015. It was noted that feedback from attendees was quite positive. ITS was encouraged to continue, to revise structure and content based on participant feedback, and hopefully even expand the number of times offered for these institutes
- Discussion of ideas/proposals for the BOR-instituted "21st Century Classroom" initiative, pilot proposals, and possible plans for subsequent resources for full implementation
- Ongoing monitoring of the University's progress on the search for a new CCSU CIO given the Spring 2015 retirement of James Estrada
  - Search was ongoing as of the last meeting
- Software Audit reporting: implementations, success and ongoing challenges
- Improvements on creation of a new way for requesting new accounts
- Continued improvements and challenges of wireless network (including CleanAccess software challenges)
- Special topic during final meeting: a last-minute forward of the Draft of Online Learning Task Force Report provided a brief opportunity for ITC to skim the report and brief discussion

Initial Goals for AY 2015-16

Revisit and revise by-laws concerning the timing and process for election of leadership positions.

In-depth review and discussion of the Draft of Online Learning Task Force Report (and anticipated summer work)

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Menoche, Chair ITC