

Library Ed Tech Meeting
April 18, 2014

Present: Yung-Pin Chen (Chair), Adam Buchwald, Mo Healy, Mark Dahl, Karen Gross, Sepideh Bajracharya, Chel Pennock. Absent: Kelly Wainwright, Lucas Contino

Infonet & Webadvisor (Adam Buchwald)

Infonet was originally written in 1997. It's old and insecure and resides on old equipment. Webadvisor is supposed to be an easy web-based tool to allow faculty to get to data stored in Colleague and additional tools have been added to it. It is meant to be simple and easy to use; therefore, it can't be customized much. For clarification, Webadvisor is for academic information, Workday is for employment information. Colleague was made to be a student information system. We pay to have Colleague, then added Webadvisor to interface with that data, and portions can be added for additional functionality.

Faculty has many concerns regarding grades and transcripts that can be accessed by professors and advisors. There is a need to discuss what features are needed, as well as what the official policy is, and then find out if it is financially or technologically feasible. Those features will also need to be passed by the Law School & Grad School. The discussion should be run by the Interim Dean after she's gotten a chance to get a little up to speed. There's no real time pressure for customization. What are "best practices" in regards to whether or not transcripts are visible to faculty? Is there some place that details the academic policy? Can faculty come back next year with a list of things they would like to see in Webadvisor? It would need to be discussed with the Dean before it is implemented. Faculty should come first with a formal policy regarding the grades and transcripts, Adam will more easily be able to build it based on that. If CAS develops a policy describing abilities to access transcripts and grades, but the Law and Grad schools say no, then Adam can find a way to follow the CAS policy.

The IT staff will be reorganized over the summer. There will be one point of contact, so you will no longer need to know specifically who you need to contact for your issue.

Watzek Space Needs Task Force (Mark Dahl)

The Space Needs Task force is almost wrapped up. This group has talked with stakeholders (Special Collections, Research Librarians, etc.), conducted a survey, did some research and reading regarding library spaces and uses, currently doing some data gathering about how certain study spaces are used in our library and what types are close to full occupancy. We have one more meeting in this semester and hope to have a report soon. We are hoping for guidance on if we need to rebalance areas, add more group study spaces, or more comfy seating, how to create a single-service desk, offer better support for the Writing Center, have a better space or more visibility for the Resource Lab. The next step will then be to see if capital money can be sought, or donors found, etc. One of the largest issues mentioned from the survey and focus groups is more or better services for commuter students, spaces to eat/buy food, etc. But overall, it seems like most needs are being met.

The new library search interface (Mark Dahl)

There are still many problems being fixed, both behind the scenes and on the public end of it.

The “get item” button now goes to our own list of holdings. We are hoping to move it to the new system over the summer. It has been problematic. The vendor and Alliance are working hard to iron out the problems.

Chair for next year (Yung-Pin Chen)

Karen Gross volunteered to chair the committee it next year. Thank you, Karen.