SUMMARY FOR ARCHITECTURE & NEW TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: April 23, 2018
TIME: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
LOCATION: Dumke Room, Eccles Broadcast Center

IN ATTENDANCE:
Mark Beekhuizen  Joe Breen  Steve Dean  Tim Ebner
Jeff Folsom  Matt Irsik  Jim Livingston  Jim Logue
Chris Roberts  Steven Seal  Jon Thomas  Daniel Trentman
Thomas Wolfe

COMMITTEE SUPPORT: Scott Sherman, Emily Rushton

UNABLE TO ATTEND:
Rebwar Baesmat  Derick Bingman  David Blackburn  Peter Bowman
Demian Hanks  Matt Harting  Sylvia Jessen  Josna Kotturappa
John Levandowski  Wes Tolman  Rob White

AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED:
• Software Anywhere working group progress
• Campus IT training survey results
• Cellular service update and the future of DAS
• Open floor

Software Anywhere working group progress

Ken Pink, Deputy Chief Information Officer, gave an update on the Software Anywhere working group and the work completed thus far. The group has attempted to reach out to all the colleges and departments to gather information on what software is currently being used and purchased for students (with mixed results), as well as engaged the U’s Spark initiative to conduct student surveys regarding software distribution on campus. Due to the time of year with students graduating and/or leaving for the summer, the group plans to have a finalized recommendation in early fall 2018. The committee discussed this, and one member asked for documentation of the working group’s charter and goals in an effort to more easily explain to faculty members the purpose of the group, which Pink agreed to share.

Campus IT training survey results

Steve Hess, Chief Information Officer, explained that when the university engaged Deloitte Consulting to conduct a holistic assessment of information technology services and operations in 2015, one of the findings from the assessment was the need to provide more training opportunities for IT employees across campus, both UIT and non-UIT. To begin addressing this, a training needs assessment survey was sent to all IT professionals across campus in April 2018. Hess showed the results of the survey,
organized by a weighted score. The committee discussed the top 10-20 results and the best way to move forward with meeting those training needs, which will likely include a combination of solutions and types of training.

**Cellular service update and the future of DAS**

Mike Ekstrom, director for UIT Network and Communications Infrastructure, gave an update on cellular service and the future of distributed antenna systems (DAS) at the U. He covered the background of cellular and wireless coverage and the differences between the two. He also talked about DAS, and the difference between public safety DAS and cellular carrier DAS. Ekstrom spoke about the challenges of working with long-term vendor contracts and carrier-owned frequencies. Hess asked how the university could come together on a more unified decision as to how wi-fi is going to interact with cellular and DAS in the future, and Chief Technology Officer Jim Livingston jumped in to explain that the goal is to become more engaged with the carriers and understand what resources they can bring to the table, as well as to work on fully understanding the U’s current contractual obligations with other third-party vendors. After some more discussion from various committee members, the topic came to a close.

**Open floor**

Dave Packham, manager for UMail and Collaboration with UIT Network and Communications Infrastructure, gave an update on a couple of items – blocking inbound/outbound SMTP, and SPF records. He explained that his team is in an investigative stage of discovering how the university, considering the way it’s currently architected and designed, could possibly be able to implement Sender Policy Framework (SPF) records. He explained that there’s a chance they could discover it’s simply not possible to implement SPF records with the U’s current architecture.

After Packham’s update, the committee discussed the next meeting and agreed to forego the May meeting, which falls on Memorial Day, and instead meet again in June 2018.

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