Computation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2014

Agenda:

1) Call meeting to order; seating of substitutes
2) Approvals
   a. Agenda
   b. Minutes from last regular meeting, September 24, 2014
3) Financial Report
4) Old Business
   a. Material Engineering and Chemical Engineering expense
   b. Techstarter Trial/Test run
      1. Student Safety Web app
      2. Coding Academy
5) New Business
6) Good of the order
7) Adjourn

Members Present: Eliot Winer (chair), Adam Eby (Student-VM), John Jackman (Faulty-Eng), Greg Davis (Staff-LIB), Changhyun Nam (Student-HS), Sneha Singh (Student-Eng), Divya Mistry (Student-GPSS), Mike Wilson (Staff-ITS), Wes Hamstreet (Student-GSB), Kevin Scheibe (Faculty-Bus), Alejandro Ramirez (Faculty-VM), Mervyn Marasinghe (Faculty-LAS), Gaylan Scofield (Faculty-CALS), Young-A Lee (Faculty-HS), Jorge Blanco (Student-LAS), Drew Mogler (Student-CALS), Adam Abbott (Student-LAS), Jennifer Nieland (Staff-DES).

Ex-Officio Members Present: Allan Schmidt (CELT), Brent Swanson (ITS)

1. Call meeting to order; seating of substitutes
   Eliot Winer called the meeting to order. Mike Wilson sitting in for Jim Twetten (ITS).

2. Approvals
   a. Agenda – Alex Ramirez moved to approve the agenda; Mervyn Marasinghe seconded. Motion passed.
   b. Minutes from last regular meeting, September 24th, 2014 – Kevin Scheibe moved to approve; Gaylan Scofield seconded. Motion passed.
3. **Financial Reports**
   a. Brent mentioned that there has not been much activity to date for the central pool budget report or the fee income report as we have not received a distribution from Accounts Receivable for the fall semester yet. That should come in November. Eliot noted that there are a few colleges with computer fee balances of over $500,000. He suggested committee members go back to their respective colleges and inquire if there is anything in the works to bring those balances down.

4. **Old Business**
   a. **Material Engineering and Chemical Engineering expense**
      i. The committee discussed the pellet press for Materials Engineering. They asked for more information in regards to why this is appropriate and how it relates to computer technology.
      ii. The committee agreed with the explanation for the Chemical Engineering expense. Motion was made to approve expense. Alex Ramirez moved to approve with Kevin Scheibe seconding. Motion passed.
   b. **Techstarter Trial/Test Run**
      i. Eliot passed around an additional handout for Techstarter ideas. He stated the objective tonight was to go through the two proposals and have a mock evaluation.
         1. **Student Safety Web app** – Eliot asked the group if this was educational technology. Wes asked if the proposer had talked to “mystate” app folks and if it could be something to add onto that app. Jen Nieland inquired if this was just for emergency alerts with Eliot stating that would be something they would need to address in the proposal. Divya stated as well that the university has it’s own system to notify students. Greg Davis suggested that it would be interesting to see what campus securities take is on this and wondered who really owns this issue. Allan Schmidt warned that the first few initiatives we do actually approve could be setting a precedent on what types of proposals we could see. Alex commented that this is more the prerogative of Public Safety. Kevin asked if this is something the committee found to be pedagogical and that this could become a potential grab bag where you blur the lines of what is technology and what benefits students. Mervyn recalled an initiative last year regarding disability access where there was a question of if this is a charge for the CAC committee or a university responsibility.

         Alex’s recommendation would be for us to forward to DPS to get clearance from them. Greg envisioned someone from the committee would shepherd this project to DPS. Eliot said we could also go back to the proposer and have them forward to DPS but Alex was concerned if the
proposer was a student and did not want the onus on a student or someone unfamiliar with university procedures. Eliot stated that every project that goes forward would have a mentor.

2. Coding Academy – Eliot started off by stating that if we were to discuss this with a committee member being the one to propose the idea, that committee member would step out of the room. Wes Hamstreet stated that for this project, students would be able to meet with one or two mentors and they would guide them through the project. Together, it would hopefully benefit the two students involved and that it would be a bit of a tutoring/mentorship.

Divya stated funding is critical for this and he would fully support if the funding aspect could be worked out. Eliot commented that the implementation for this would be very difficult and that they could maybe staff this with 3 or 4 people at most. He asked how many this would actually be able to serve. Gaylan also asked that if this was CAC funded would you be able to turn students away if they wanted tutoring on projects/homework. Alex noted that there is a physical space requirement which CAC may not have the authority to designate such a requirement.

Eliot said that the feedback to the proposer might be that we would consider contribution, but there would need to be multiple streams. He also mentioned that Techstarter may need a link with our CAC funding guidelines. The committee stated that for future proposals they would like to all look at them together and not have a subcommittee bring them forward.

5. New Business
   a. Jim is shepherding a communication plan for Techstarter. A few communication avenues the group suggested to add were; a news release on ISU website, ISU tv, Blackboard login page, flyer distribution list, Gerdin video board (other video boards as well), CCSG, college newsletters, and IRHA-dorms & university housing.

6. Good of the Order.


Brent Swanson
IT Services Ex Officio