CCSG Meeting Notes—March 23, 2010

1. Welcome and Acknowledgements
CCSG would like to acknowledge the following contributors to today’s meeting: Troy Van De Kreeke, Mike Lohrbach, ITS; Karl Schindel, Grad College.

2. Announcements
   a) HP Thin Client Technical Session; 3/25/2010, 1:00–3:30 p.m. in 206 Durham Center.
   b) Discontinuance of Linux Multi-User SAS Service – We will soon announce the removal of the Linux machine before the SAS license needs to be renewed in July.

3. Discussion
   a) ITS Virtual Server Offering – Troy Van De Kreeke, ITS

   Soon ITS will be able to offer virtual machines to the campus. Troy will present further technical details at the next meeting.

   b) Blackboard and WebCT Upgrade – Allan Schmidt and Randy Dalhoff

   We will be experimenting with Blackboard Learn 9 this summer and going into co-production. Blackboard purchased WebCT and they have now created Blackboard Learn 9, which is the next step after WebCT. Version 9.1 will be out in a week. This version is close to the look-and-feel of WebCT. This is considered an upgrade for WebCT Vista.

   We will pilot with some faculty in the fall, then open it next spring and give faculty a year to migrate. There are migration tools to convert old WebCT work to the new version (although that won’t use some of the new features).

   Blackboard also bought Angel, which is very good in the assessment area; those features will also work their way into Blackboard Learn soon. The new version has a “community system”. Some of the tools used for credit systems will be made available to research groups and committees; discussion forums, calendars, etc. might be useful to those groups as well.

   This fall Vista 8.x/R9.1 and Moodle will be in co-production, tentatively.

4. New Business
   a) Open Floor to Questions and Comments

   Mike Lohrbach: Windows 7 32-bit is now supported by Dell ImageDirect. We’re putting together an image for it so that you can get it as well as XP.

   Allan Schmidt: The other project we have going is online course evaluations. Right now we use bubble sheets, then staff have to type in the student comments by hand. We’re putting together an RFP to look at commercial products to do this online. Some colleges have started their own
systems, some are using SurveyMonkey. We’re hoping to find one the whole campus could benefit from. The RFP is at Purchasing; when that comes in we can start doing evaluations. The more people we have watching the demos the better. Randy and Allan will call for participants, probably next month. Spread the word to your faculty and staff that this is coming.

5. Next Meeting
April 27, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in 206 Durham Center.

6. Adjournment
We adjourned at 2:31 p.m.