ITCO Minutes 11-10-09

Present: Samantha Birk, Gail Rathbun, Tiff Adkins, Judith Garrison, Steve Carr, Linda Meyer
Absent: Sue Mau, Eric Vitz, Joseph McCormick

1. The committee discussed publishing a web site similar to keep teaching.iu.edu to support faculty during periods of high absenteeism. We did not think that IPFW had the resources to mount and maintain a similar web site. Recommendations were that ITCO facilitate/discourage discussions in the departments, and that it may be feasible to collect a list of helpful links around the topic of teaching during times of high absenteeism. Linda pointed out that IPFW’s unusually close relationship with Deb McMahon, the top Allen County public health officer put us in a good position to respond in an emergency. Tiff also pointed out the IPFW H1N1 link at the bottom of the IPFW main web page http://www.ipfw.edu/pandemic/flu/guidelines.shtml.

2. Sam reported on the Educause conference which she attended last week with Eric Vitz and Joseph McCormick in Denver, Colorado. She highlighted sessions she attended on copyright, Storytelling in Web 2.0, the Learning Commons at Xavier University (Cincinnati, Ohio) http://www.xavier.edu/educause/

Technologies of interest included the growing perfection of touch screen interfaces and the ability to “fly files through the air”, growth of handheld interfaces (Blackboard Vista will have an interface designed for handheld devices), Smartboard vs portable wireless tablets, eg Schoolpad (by einstruction) or Qwizdom’s product, the Q7 Presenter Tablet, which was the product that Sam saw (the same company sells “clicker” that are cross-platform http://www.qwizdom.com/education/q7_tablet.php). These tablets can be plugged into a computer workstation with a wireless USB plug and then be carried around the room while the teacher writes on it or draws on the computer image, which can be projected via a projector or just on the wall. The teacher can bring the tablet to the students and ask for their input, too. The cost is about $400+, but a significant discount can be had for a quantity order. One school had just ordered 80 to give to teachers and paid around@$200.

Sam and Eric also saw a variation on the Echo 360 (for capture of audio and computer screen activity) capabilities that will allow us to autopublish these vodcasts, now being done in the videoconference rooms and the TV studio, to iTunes U. They are working on enabling this capability.

This week Sam and ITS managers will be meeting with our new Apple rep, Dick Hamstra, on Thursday to discuss how ITS might use an old Apple X server with the Sno Leopard operating system to help us stream media. We are interested in setting up a Podcast Producer environment. ITS has decided to abandon Real for streaming video.

3. IU-Adobe Connect Agreement

Tiff asked ACITAS members at their last meeting for any stories about using Adobe products in teaching.
4. Lynda.com

Sam reported on behalf of Joseph that he had obtained 10 seats for a pilot of this web site, which offers high quality tutorials in a broad variety of software applications. He needs names of faculty who might want to participate. Gail said she had proposed Brenda Groff in OLS, Sue Keck in CASA, Joseph Khamalah (who assigns teachers for K200 in DSBMS), COM. Access to Lynda was also suggested as a benefit to Alumni, so perhaps someone from that office should be contacted.

5. No news on the progress of the new service request process, nor on the ITS strategic plan.

6. Brief discussion of the computer classroom that would go into the Learning Commons. Adam Dircksen of COM pointed out the need for at least 30 sets in the room to accommodate most COM classes that would be using it.

7. ACITAS will be meeting on Friday, November 20 at noon. Gail will send ITCO minutes to Dan Miller, the current chair, and to Tiff, who is the ACITAS rep on ITCO.

8. Accompanying these minutes are google analytics on the ITCO web site. It was suggested that ways to share folders be put on the ITCO web site. Gail also asked Steve if he could please update the ACITAS committee members on the ITCO web site.

NEXT meeting: Dec. 8 3-4:30 pm ET 206