COE Technology Committee Minutes  
Monday – March 7, 2011  
3:30 p.m. – SEC 137

**Present:**

Special Guest: COE Dean Dwight C. Watson  
Megan Balong, PLS  
Maxine Davis, IRTS  
Michael Fanelli, Ed Psych  
Fabio Fontana, HPELS  
Rodd Grady, IRTS  
Phil Hibbard, ITS-Ed Tech  
Alexandra Krekel, Undergraduate Student (Elementary Ed)  
Katrinka Smith, IRTS  
Amy Staples, Special Education

**Absent:**

Neil Clopton, IRTS  
Elizabeth Eslami, Undergraduate Student (Middle School)  
Robin Galloway, C & I  
Mary Herring, Interim Associate Dean  
Steve Moon, ITS-Administration  
Daniel Mourlam – TQP Tech Specialist  
Linda Rosulek, OSFE  
Vickie Robinson, ELPSE  
Seth Vickers, Regents’ Center, Graduate Student (C & I)

1. **Promethean professional development update**

Maxine reported on the February 17 Promethean training meeting with Gary Norris and Waterloo teachers. Members of our COE Professional Development Subcommittee (Maxine, Robin Galloway, Dan Mourlam and Mary Herring) also attended. It was decided to hold an introductory meeting of interested UNI faculty and Waterloo teachers. Superintendent Norris is currently identifying teachers to potentially match up with various UNI faculty and form partnerships based on a mutual content area. In the meantime, Robin Galloway will continue offering the Promethean “play dates” to expose faculty to the equipment.

Ideally, a partnership would continue through May and possibly into summer and even long-term. Fabio inquired whether the partnership would be one-sided; that is, the UNI faculty member would learn how to effectively use the Promethean board, but what would the Waterloo school teacher gain? The teacher would gain knowledge of current methodology and pedagogy for teaching the specific content area.

Rodd indicated that teacher education students may download the Active Inspire software needed to create lessons on their own computers. It is necessary for them to register at the Promethean Planet website.

2. **Assistive technology update**

Amy Staples obtained a quote earlier from Don Johnston for the Solo Suite of software that includes Text Reader, Word Prediction, Talking Word Processor, and Graphic Organizer. To buy a building license for Price Lab would cost approximately $5,000. In addition, Neil and Chris Curran are pursuing pricing information for a license to cover the SEC 206, SEC 127/28 and WRC 154 labs also. At present, we have a one-semester license for the Solo suite in SEC 206. More information at: [http://www.donjohnston.com/products/solo/](http://www.donjohnston.com/products/solo/)

3. **COE one-to-one computing discussion**

The one-to-one initiative involves assigning a laptop computer to every K-12 student and is being pursued at Price Lab. Dan Mourlan has suggested forming a subcommittee to plan how the COE can support these efforts and determine how to prepare teacher education students for this classroom
environment they will encounter at PLS and other schools. Waverly Middle Schools is piloting a program assigning an I-Pad to each student.

Dean Watson spoke of an April conference focusing on one-to-one initiatives and stated that UNI should assume a more intentional role in this area. More information at, see https://sites.google.com/site/iowa1to1/home.

Robin Galloway and Leigh Zeitz are likely to be involved. Phil suggested inviting Jason Vetter from ITS. Neil Clopton and Megan Balong have worked on one-to-one in the past. An e-mail will be sent out to identify others interest in being on the subcommittee.

4. **Standardizing equipment in SEC/WRC classrooms proposal for FY’12**

It is estimated that the COE will receive the same allocation of student computer fees next year, $220,000. Off the top overhead costs are estimated at $95,000-$100,000.

Maxine distributed cost estimates for standardizing multimedia equipment in all classrooms in SEC and WRC. The rooms were originally equipped over a period of several years, so models and operating instructions are different from room to room. The goal is to retrofit each room with a touch-screen Crestron system like the one in SEC 303/05 to standardize operation. To turn on the Crestron, simply touch the screen and to operate a particular piece of equipment, still touch that button. Twenty-two classrooms would be upgraded at an estimated cost of $80,000. One other smaller project is upgrading all the older Sharp MB-70X projects in the classrooms at an estimated cost of $13,000.

Additional suggested projects:
- replacing slate chalkboards in the SEC lecture halls with white boards to prevent chalk dust getting on and into equipment
- equipping SEC 137 with a large plasma screen, this will be only room without technology
- having laptop plug and play connectivity in all classrooms
- purchasing and Maintaining a cart of I-Pads

Responses
- Maxine will inquire about whether computer fees can be used for whiteboards in the lecture halls. Using computer fees to install multimedia in 137 will be difficult if we cannot show a benefit to students.
- Research will be done on connectivity of the Crestrons with laptops and also plug and playing audio. Phil indicated it depends on the age of the Crestron.
- Rodd indicated that I-Pads need be to be associated with a specific Mac account. It should be possible to set one up to access common applications with a general password.

Spending plans for FY’12 will be finalized at the April meeting.

5. **Other**

Neil has contacted the vendor Recompute. This company offers a Windows-based computer with a case made completely of recyclable cardboard. These machines have a motherboard like Dell’s small form factor computer. Pricing may be negotiated similar to what Dell offers. IRTS is considering purchasing a few of these machines as a pilot and house them in the middle of our library area. more info: www.recompute.com.

Next meeting Monday, April 4, 2011, 3:30 in SEC 137.

Respectfully submitted,

Katrinka Smith