I. Learning Management System Strategy – Endorse (*Pat Davis*)

II. Email Strategy – Update (*Brad Englert*)

III. Administrative Systems Procurement and Data Access Governance – Update (*Mary Knight, Kristi Fisher*)

IV. Longhorn Innovation Fund for Technology – Update (*Pat Davis*)
Learning Management System Strategy - Endorse

Overview

The University of Texas at Austin’s learning management system (LMS) Blackboard does not meet the current needs of campus. After a comprehensive assessment of alternatives, a replacement, Canvas by Instructure, was identified and then evaluated in 250 courses. Participants in those courses were asked if they would support moving to Canvas as the university’s central LMS, with 80% of faculty and 66% of students in favor of such a decision.

Background

The University offers thousands of courses, taught by 3,000 faculty to 50,000 students every semester. Nearly 65% of these courses utilize the LMS for course materials, quizzes and grades, while allowing communication between instructors and students. This functionality has been provided by Blackboard since 2000. However, according to a survey of faculty conducted in May 2010, only a small portion of Blackboard’s available features were being used and other key features did not meet expectations, prompting an assessment of alternatives.

Evaluation

After a comprehensive assessment—which included faculty focus groups, peer benchmarking and a Request for Proposal (RFP)—was conducted, one product, Canvas by Instructure, was identified and implemented for further evaluation in an active classroom setting. The evaluation consisted of 250 courses during academic year 2012-13 with 170 faculty and 12,000 students participating. The majority surveyed agreed Canvas offered additional features that were more conducive to classroom learning and was more “modern”, “clean”, and “intuitive” than Blackboard. Spring faculty with experience using both Canvas and Blackboard were asked which better supported their teaching needs, with 54% indicating Canvas compared to 17% for Blackboard. At the conclusion of each semester, participants were asked if they would support moving to Canvas as the University’s central LMS, with 80% of faculty and 66% of students in favor of such a decision.

Funding

ITS Common Good funding will cover traditional students, faculty, and staff. Over three to five years, moving to Canvas is projected to be revenue neutral.

Endorsements

The project steering committee nearly unanimously recommended a move to Canvas as the University’s central learning management system. This recommendation was subsequently reviewed and unanimously endorsed by the Research & Educational Technology Committee on June 19, 2013 and the Operational Information Technology Committee on July 24, 2013.

Learn More

Canvas by Instructure: http://www.instructure.com/
Canvas LMS Evaluation project: https://www.utexas.edu/its/canvas-project/

SITAB Action: Endorse
Email Strategy – Update

Project Overview

The purpose of the email strategy is to migrate UT Austin’s on premise Exchange email service (AEMS) to Microsoft’s Office 365 service before the next round of hardware is due to be refreshed.

Office365 is an enterprise level cloud solution. At this time, only Exchange based email and calendaring are being migrated from AEMS.

Current State

- Approximately 8,400 of 20,000 accounts have been moved to Office 365
- On June 28th, we decided to hold further migrations:
  - Many critical technical and service stability issues were identified during this stage (May thru June) and escalated to the vendors for resolution.
  - The issues will be resolved and tested before the migrations can be restarted.

Lessons Learned So Far

- Any change to faculty and staff email is HARD and disruptive.
- Anticipate more technical challenges, including the unexpected.
- Good, clear, concise, and consistent communication is critical to success.
- Proceeding with the campus migration after uncovering problems with the ITS migration, in hindsight, was a mistake.

Next Steps

- Resolve open technical issues
- Develop a new schedule to account for academic calendars, unit level needs, and support challenges
- Improve communications and awareness efforts based on customer feedback
Overview

The administrative systems evaluation Committee is currently assessing vendor responses to Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Platform proposals for hosted solutions. Hosted solutions could be proposed as Software as a Service (SaaS) or Platform as a Service (PaaS). The solicitation for the pre-qualification of integration providers (RFQ) was posted July 10th. Vendor responses are due August 8th.

Initiative 1.1- System Replacement

ERP Platform and Implementation Services Selection Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Start-Up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Define and Validate System Requirements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop ERP Platform RFP and Evaluation Process</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop RFQ- Implementation Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Posting of ERP Platform RFP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate and Select ERP Platform</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed ERP Platform License Agreement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Qualify Implementation Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate and Select Implementation Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed Implementation Services Agreement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ERP Staffing and Resource Planning Subcommittee

This subcommittee is charged with developing recommendations for:

- Backfilling positions for core functions
- Incentives for project and backfill staffing
- Addressing any current equity/market adjustment needs
- Numbers and types of new positions needed
- Training program needs and skillsets required
- Strategy for focusing resources on the transition plan and high university priorities and developing policies for limiting lower priority system enhancements
Administrative Systems and Data Access Governance – Update (cont.)

Initiative 1.2- Improve Design and Management of Data

Data Access Governance Policy

- Provost and CFO distributed Data Management Standards – May 2013
- Data Management Committee (DMC) formed from existing IQ Steering Committee
- IQ-DMC will report through IT Governance via Business Services Committee (BSC)
- DMC, in collaboration with business area data stewards, developing precise data access and use policies as outlined in the Data Management Standards document (target draft completion date – August 31st).
More than 60 proposals were submitted for the 2013-2014 Longhorn Innovation Fund for Technology Award competition. The proposals came from across campus and included several first-time proposers. Ultimately, $539,000 was allocated to six proposals selected for funding.

### 2013-2014 Longhorn Innovation Fund for Technology Awardees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Units Involved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Peer-Instruction on the Fly: Developing an Innovative System that Encourages Conceptual Understanding, Persistence, and Connection in Asynchronous Environments</strong></td>
<td>College of Communication and the Center for Teaching and Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Innovation Station: A 3D Printing Vending Machine for UT Austin Students</strong></td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mapping the UT BIOME</strong></td>
<td>Cockrell School of Engineering, the Jackson School of Geosciences, the Section of Integrative Biology, the School of Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Robots for Everyone!</strong></td>
<td>Department of Computer Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A Technology for Addressing the “Error Rate Problem” Associated with Next-Generation DNA Sequencing, with Application to Cancer and Immunology Research Being Conducted Across the UT Austin Campus</strong></td>
<td>Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, the Department of Computer Science, the School of Biological Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appsoma – an Innovative “Cloud-Based” Approach to Promote On-Line Coding, Sharing and Learning, Jumpstart Research Activities, and to Perform Research Computations with Reproducible Results</strong></td>
<td>Center for Systems and Synthetic Biology, Information Technology Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>