Green IT (GITAG) Minutes

March 7, 2012

Present: Lowell Williamson, Julio Gonzalez, Scott Paterson, James McCarthy, Kevin Rampersad, Sandra Laughlin, David Collins, Rick Loney

Business Arising from Previous Meeting

Newsletter
Everyone confirmed the Newsletter was sent out to the mailing groups in their respective units. Lowell asked if using these mailing lists is a good methodology to move forward with future newsletter releases. We agreed that it was suitable.

Submission to CIO Selection Committee
Lowell prepared a submission and forwarded it on to the group previously for feedback. He will wait until March 9th for more feedback before sending this on to the committee.

University GreenMetric Ranking
James solicited feedback from other Universities (Sherbrooke, Ottawa, York). James only received feedback from York (email sent Wed 2/15/2012 4:25 PM). It was agreed that the GreenMetric Ranking information requirements are beyond that of the GITAG group. Lowell mentioned he should follow up with our CTSC representative Terry Stewart.

Introductions
Welcomed David Collins as our student representative from STAC. David is in his 4th year at the Faculty of Environment, he also works with Housing and Residences part-time as part of their IT Team.

New Business

Report to STAC
Lowell presented to STAC last month. There were 2 presentations during this meeting. There wasn’t much feedback from the students during the meeting; David mentioned discussion surrounding the Presidents Town Hall meeting was the focus for most attendees.

Peter Stirling & Ecofont for thesis submissions
Peter Stirling (pfstirling) who is an Information Associate at the Witer Learning Resource Centre sent Lowell and email (Sunday, March 04, 2012 1:42 PM) asking if GITAG could push for the ecofont to be listed as an accepted font for thesis submissions. Kevin agreed to investigate where the font thesis mandate comes from and how change is implemented.

Website to Drupal: Feedback/Considerations?
James and Lowell are working on moving content to the new CMS. They are asking everyone to look through the site for feedback, more content, etc. David suggested we add the minutes to the website and we agreed this was acceptable (since other advisory groups on campus do this) but information may need to filtered with regard to Policy 8.
Deadlines were announced:

March 22nd – Migration of current content will be complete

March 23rd- Apr. 2nd – Review new site and provide feedback

April 3rd – Go live with the new design at the new URL www.uwaterloo.ca/green-it An announcement will be sent out.

**Trade show representation**

We discussed having a table/booth for our at Procurement and Contract Services annual trade show. We felt it wasn’t appropriate place for an Advisory Committee, as it’s mainly populated by vendors and service-oriented on-campus groups.

**Other**

Our position paper on printing was brought up and it was asked if anything came of it beyond CTSC. Lowell mentioned that it was well received at CTSC but wasn’t sure if anything actionable came about after the fact. Lowell mentioned he would follow up.

David Collins talked about being active in making Green change on campus and mentioned he would follow up with his peers on providing GITAG with a picture on the student experience.

**Members’ Reports**

Sandy – followed up with Waterloo North Hydro email (sent Fri 2/10/2012 1:04 PM) who is willing to work with us on GreenIT initiatives, they need a specific direction or purpose to move forward with this.

Scott – Attended a thin client presentation by HP. Arts is moving their Neeware machines to HP 5325 environment. A total of about 50 machines with be HP 5325 upon completion. The Robotel system used in a Modern Languages lab is being looked at replacement by a thin client system with similar functionality as well.

Rick – Reported his finding on battery disposal from the previous meeting he attended, Greg Friday accepts all batteries. Science is also using a Dell off lease program where you can purchase system around 3years old for around $300. These systems come with a 1 year warranty.

Julio – upgrading Housing and Residences storage system to using 10Gbit connections. They are also working on updating their RMS system.

Kevin – Working with a space committee for designing a new Civil & Environmental Graduate student common area in E2. The plan will include an area for all graduate printing. All printers (approximately 10) will be consolidated to using 2 or 3 common Xerox machines. Kevin is working with an Adjunct Professor in Environment Canada to update the aged weather.uwaterloo.ca. Kevin will report on how this process becomes more green.