

Rancho Santiago Community College District

District Office

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Technology Advisory Group

Meeting of: Thursday, April 02, 2015 – 2:30 p.m.

District Office 114, Executive Conference Room

Meeting Minutes for April 02, 2015

Members Present: Curtis Childress, Tammy Cottrell, Mike DeCarbo, Dean Hopkins, Phil Lyle, Lee Krichmar, Nicholas Quach, Narges Rabii-Rakin, Sergio Rodriguez, Jolene Shields, George Sweeney, Pat Weekes

Members Absent: Ancie Dulalas, Kari Irwin, Jim Kennedy, Cherylee Kushida,

Guests: Stuart Davis, Elizabeth Saliba

Discussion

- Roadmap presentations
 - Guillermo Amaya from Dell brought in several tablets, laptops and a few small micro or tiny form factor PC's for the committee to evaluate. He provided a brief company profile and a roadmap of future technology at Dell.
- Minutes
 - The minutes from the March 05, 2015 meeting were approved.
- Review Pricing Comparisons (Lenovo, HP, Dell)
 - Lee provided documentation and the committee reviewed the price variances between the three PC manufacturers and discussed the differences. Lee pointed out a few details on the three different monitors and the group reviewed the detailed desktop and monitor specifications. Phil pointed out that Dell has a 24/7 warranty listed on the quote and that perhaps by downgrading the service to our current standard which is next day, the pricing may end up nearly the same.
 - Lee clarified that this entire process of evaluating the three vendors is not a result of any bad experience with Dell or poor service/performance. The ITS department is satisfied with the equipment and service from Dell. The intent is to make sure that the district is still getting the best value for its desktop purchases as possible.
 - Tammy inquired about some of the non-monetary impact of making a change, such as the impact for technicians with handling multiple platforms. This process is certainly not aimed at making changes every year or even for several years, should the district decide to go with HP or Lenovo instead of Dell.
 - Lee will bring back the final pricing for TAG so the group can consider a vote to change our existing desktop standard.
- A/V Standards Update
 - Nothing additional to report at this time. The committee will be meeting in the near future.
 - An update will be presented at the May 7th TAG meeting.
- VDI Update

- Phil shared that the VDI assessment was done for SAC and SCC. The vendor took technology specification information from both campus classrooms and will begin preparation of prototypes in all three locations. Then testing will begin on these virtual desktops.
- The goal is to replicate the user experience between a regular desktop and a virtual environment.
- There is a lot of potential for savings with replacing so many computers in the campus labs and libraries if students are able to replicate the experience with their own laptops or tablets. All of these options will be evaluated during the pilot period.
- The concept of VDI stations, if implemented, will have a significant impact on the number of PC's purchased each year down the road. VDI stations will be installed and all data and services will be handled by centralized servers. These will replace individual desktop computers. If proven to be successful, this could save the district money in the long run. But, it is a more expensive option in the short run. The added flexibility of software and BYOD are huge benefits, although they are difficult to quantify.
- Implementation will take quite some time, so purchasing of desktop computers will continue for the foreseeable future.
- Ellucian Mobile Update
 - Stuart shared that they rolled out GPS coordinates to the campuses as well as photos. GPS coordinates are already loaded and photos are in the process.
 - Ellucian mobile will be turned on in a test environment next week so that Admissions and Records can begin testing the registration components. If all goes well, they will turn on for production.
 - Schedule, Grades, potentially registration, and Maps should be ready by May.
- Discuss establishing Canvas Sub-Committee (competitor for Blackboard)
 - Scott James and Cherylee Kushida have sent emails to both campuses informing them of the formation of a task force to investigate the possibility to transition to Canvas.
 - The sub-committee will be evaluating Canvas and making a recommendation for implementation.
 - Lee explained that we are currently in year one of a two year contract with Blackboard therefore our P.O. for fiscal year 2015-16 will still be for Blackboard.

Action Items

- Share information from Lenovo, HP, and Dell with SACTAC and SCCTAC in preparation for vote at May 7th meeting.

Information Distributed

- Desktop Price Comparisons for Dell, Lenovo, and HP
- Email from Scott James regarding LMS Task Force for Canvas

Meeting Schedule Spring 2015

2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room (DIST-114)

Thursday, May 7

Thursday, June 18

Adjournment

Lee adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.