

Infrastructure Council Minutes
May 12, 2008
2-4 PM 283 Reitz Union

Attendees:

Chris Hughes
Jane Brockmann
Marc Hoit
Mike Conlon
John Ingram
Ed Poppell
Marjorie Hoy
Peggy carr
Creed Greer
Lisa McElwee-White
David Smith
Bill Properzio

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM

The minutes of the April 17, 2008 meeting were approved.

New PeopleSoft module installation- Mike Conlon, Director, Data Infrastructure
Mike Conlon reported that the new PeopleSoft student financial system will go live on October 13. This system will be a billing and collection system for student finances. The system allows for a better management for fee structures and will have a helpline and full integration into the ISIS system.

General PeopleSoft discussion

There was discussion of grants and problems with PeopleSoft. Ed Poppell stated there are communication problems and difficulties in the UF Business Process. Mike Conlon stated that there are two types of problems: system problems and individual problems.

The problems discussed included staff being busy, increased complexity in the grants without associated increases and in some cases decreases in personnel. If grant system also has systemic issues, these need to be identified and resolved.

There was a suggestion for Bridges to develop a plan for improving communication and training. Ed Poppell stated he is going to meet with Chemistry and Entomology to review their problems with PeopleSoft and report on them to see if problems are a training problem or a systemic problem.

Mike Conlon mentioned that the HSC Research Administration is effective in using the grant system but that RA's outside of the HSC don't really understand research administration and that it is a full time job that requires a person skilled in the process.

He is willing to come back with some specific proposals on how to improve communication. He was also asked to suggest training material that could be evaluated by the council for clarity.

Vehicle Management Plan

There was a question regarding the required paperwork, which Ed Poppell stated was just a report of the miles driven that would be collected quarterly. This would only be needed if the car was fueled outside of the UF motor pool, which already collects this information.

Steering Committee Meeting Update Jane Brockman.

Jane Brockmann attended the senate steering committee. Discussion at the meeting consisted of layoffs, closing of programs, and reorganization. The Board of Trustees meeting is on Wednesday to request approval of the budget cuts and approval to make further changes as needed as long as the total budget being cut remained the same.

Machen is open to making changes if justified, but the normal UF Constitution procedures will not be followed for departmental and programmatic changes. There was appreciation that there were no cuts to the libraries and in security.

The Infrastructure Council discussed budget reductions.

There were some comments that perhaps Bridges shouldn't be cut, so that they could continue to improve UF Functions. There was also talk about the IT cuts and the technology fee and how eventually this could help replace some of the cut funding.

There was a suggestion to create some communications to the faculty and staff regarding specific things they could do to reduce energy consumption. It was mentioned that in most locations on campus, raising the building temperature actually increases energy costs, due to how chilled water cooling works.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM