The Information Technology Council met six times this year: September 23, October 21, November 18, February 16, March 24, and April 21. While the traditional meeting times have been on Thursdays, schedule conflicts have had us move our meetings to Mondays.

The September meeting was an attempt to identify a few issues that we want to focus on for the year. Discussion of potential issues that we might consider included

**SHAREOK**

- Open Access and Open Educational Resources.
- Guidelines on what the student experience should be regarding technology?
- Integration of mobile efforts (by IT/WebCom/Students/Library)
- A university sponsored spot for students to store documents on the Web.
- Campus printing for students.
- Captioning.
- Is IT moving to 360? Do we have a roll out plan
- Canvas/Desire2Learn/Platform -- how will this get explained to students/faculty?
- Standards for online courses in platform.ou.edu Need recommended standards concerning courses offered there.
- Instructional technologies and student access systems
- Data backup for faculty
- Document sharing systems – D2L, SharePoint, Portfolio, Dropbox

The October meeting addressed several current issues.

**The Council passes a resolution to ask the administration to form a task force that would select a preferred Student Response System** (“clicker”) so that students would not have to buy several of them for their courses. The Faculty Senate passed the ITC resolution to consolidate Student Response System (“clicker”) recommendations to a single one. The recommendation of the faculty working group was to select iClicker as the recommended solution and that recommendation was accepted by the University administration. That device had better text management interfaces for classroom use than the competitors. It will be the one carried by the bookstore and supported by the Center for Teaching Excellence.

**Several faculty met with Senator Ron Sharp** on Monday, October 14, 2014 11:00 AM-12:00 PM. Attending were Al Schwarzkopf, with Kelly Damphousse, Rick Luce, Adam Croom, and Danny Hilliard.

The discussion went over the Digital Initiative innovations we are introducing in OU classrooms. Ron is a retired schoolteacher who is very interested in supporting education initiatives in Oklahoma. It appears that we are in a position to be innovation leaders for the state. Discussion covered the efforts higher education is taking to control costs for students through electronic and open-source textbooks, library
initiatives, book rentals, making resources available through D2L and related technology, and providing tablets to students.

**We also discussed the Digital Initiative on campus.** Initiatives on campus include open access/content, iTunes U, use of technology in classroom, e-Textbooks, share platform for depository in library, technology for flipped classrooms, tablet deployments in education, One University in OMU as a retail stop plus showcasing available technologies, administrative systems, CMS/D2L, and open education resources in the library. (It was noted that the Janix platform in the library is public, but not an open resource.) Free custom textbooks are another item to keep in mind. The One University initiative may be seen as piecemeal rather than thematic; however, the web site (http://www.ou.edu/content/oneuniversity/about.html) does offer an overall institutional context, as well as illustrate the projects and future of One University. Faculty needs may require a pilot program and/or promotional tutorials to encourage use of all the resources mentioned. There have been several deans involved in One University and further visit to the colleges may be necessary for more communication. More training for PhD students would be helpful for their future careers.

The November meeting covered several new topics.

**The meeting included a review of the topics for the January IT Expo.** There will be a keynote presentation by Jeff Selingo, the author of the best-selling book College (un)Bound: The Future of Higher Education and What it Means for Students, a contributing editor to The Chronicle of Higher Education, and professor of practice at Arizona State University. There will also be over 20 breakout sessions, and a reception in the new One University Store after the Expo.

**There was further discussion of video captioning.** This is a longstanding issue. There don’t seem to be any simple solutions. Transcription costs are high (on the order of $150 per hour), speech-to-text is not accurate and requires editing, and ADA requirements mean that any public facing videos have to be captioned. It is not clear what the details of the University policy are and we propose to clarify that next meeting.

In February, the committee received reports on several key policies.

**Shaun Ensz (Administrator III with OU IT) gave a review of the Sophos rollout.**

The university supports some 30,000 unique devices, 20,000 simultaneous logins 193,000 total sessions. We have seen a 400% growth in device usage on campus which increases the threat of cyber-attack. Risks include malware, targeted attacks and inadvertent disclosures. A summary equation is

- Toxic Data (TD)= 3P + IP where
- 3P includes Protected Health Information (PHI) + Protected Individual Information(PII) + Protected security Clearance (PCL)
- And IP is Intellectual Property.

Why move to Sophos? The Symantec contract was coming up. The Symantec security software produced performance slowdowns during scans, had poor Mac support, was expensive and campus adoption did not appear to be great. Captioning.

**Chelle' Guttery, Director of the OU Disability Resource Center.**
Reviewed the policy for required captioning of video media. The general rules are that any public facing video needs to be captioned. Videos behind a firewall (e.g. D2L) do not have to be captioned unless someone in the class requests it. The requestor does not have to be impaired. Once the request has been made, the available videos (that is videos already posted) need to be captioned within a couple of weeks. Removing all videos would NOT be an option by then. Included are

- Any videos used for class
- Purchased videos (these need to be captioned)
- New videos should be captioned when created

The Disability Resource Center has funding for captioning videos. If you provide them with the video they can have them professionally captioned by the OU Press. Cost is generally about $150 per video hour. Thus a 3 hour course would cost us about $7000 to fully caption if we focused on lecture capture. OU cannot caption videos when we do not have permission from the copyright owner. Remember that when downloading videos from the Internet.

Report from the User Experience sub-committee, Gray Delacuyse and Lindsey Johnson.

OU is in the process of making additional changes to the oZONE platform. First we will need to upgrade the User Experience Platform (i.e. the portal) to provide more flexibility and a better Single Sign On capability and targeted messaging. In addition a new version of Banner (the actual Student Management System) will be installed, probably in March, which will provide better student functionality. In addition, the UX committee is working to revise The Book to focus more on the functionality as used by the community than the features orientation that we now have. Target would be to roll out some functions by fall.

The March meeting included updates on issues from the previous meeting.

Discussion of Ellucian is (the University registration system provider) upgrade to oZone. The goal is to change user experience with new platform with only one sign-on. In addition, the D2L contract comes up for renewal in a year and OU is running pilots with D2L, Canvas, and Schoology. There was an open call for pilot programs and an opportunity for individuals to try out each product ad kiosks around campus. The goal is to select a preferred vendor by the end of the summer for implementation a year later.

There was a discussion of the Library Digital Humanities lab by Carl Grant. The collaborative learning area is under constructions and moving along. There is a Researchers tool page on the library web site open for review.

The April meeting reviewed several topics that had been introduced earlier.

Mark Morvant reviewed the course management system pilot. Pilot is coming to an end. Timeline is to have a recommendation for consideration to the Provost’s Office and CIO at the beginning of June with a final recommendation by July 1. CANVAS by Instructure and D2L+ are being considered. OU is following other universities going to cloud-based services. A by-product will be that this will help lessen the load on the campus network. This was driven by a digital initiatives survey for faculty and students; moving toward a system more innovative for students; and an upcoming contract renewal for D2L on July 1, 2015. The Center for Teaching Excellence and OU I.T. will follow with an analysis of usage.

Loretta Early reviewed the upgrade for Banner enrollment system. Upgrade seems to have gone well. More student CARTS will be available for future semester planning. Student advisors will need to be trained on these options.

**Al Schwarzkopf was selected as Chair for 2014-15 with Carl Grant to assist with the agenda.**