

● ITC Minutes

Mon Mar 15, 2021 at 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Attendance (in **bold**)

Organized by **Fagg**, Andrew H., with **Karathanasis**, Konstantinos, **Cavazos**, Jenel N., **Kobza**, Christopher M., **Ho**, Stephen Y., **Biggs**, Aaron A., **Baillio**, Aaron, **Dickson**, April D (HSC), Reali, Edward, **Boyd**, Eric L., Smith, Bentley, Key, Nicholas B., **Anderson**, David, **Horton**, David M. (HSC), cscok.ou@gmail.com, McCanlies, Jeff (HSC), Horton, David M., **Poillion**, William A. III, and **Deering**, Daniel. **KRATZ**

Zoom link: oklahoma.zoom.us/j/98027076386?pwd=bmhQTldhWFNpNTNIWFVhQWVZRMjVUT09

Minutes from previous month approved.

Downcycling Update

- April Dickson: update on policy for downcycling of equipment. Next month there will be a media disposal guideline for different data types and scenarios. Ability to securely delete data without wiping an entire drive.
- Chris Kobza: overview of processes for downcycling and recycling. There will be a new process/policy in the next year to this process to standardize across three campuses.
- Fagg: faculty have been told that they are not allowed to recycle through Apple (and receive a credit).
- Kobza: Apple devices hold value more than PC and downcycling has become more common. Tech can be used for at least 5-6 years.
- Horton: OU must require an extra year of use for Apple products because they are more expensive. Concern about downcycling becoming an incentive to upgrade more frequently.

572 update

- Anderson: new 572 area code will require all phone calls in Norman/OKC area to dial 10 digits instead of 7 digits. April 24 is the deadline for providers to stop accepting 7 digits.

April: update on standardization policy

- Main focus is on computers purchased with external funds.
 - there will be an allowance for multiple computers per employee in this case.
 - External vs Internal Research Funding
 - non-standard form will still be required with external funded purchases to help with inventory
 - Plan for a more centralized procurement and deployment model with an actual asset management system (with tagging for new systems)
 - April's slide on new Policy:

Computer Standardization Policy Update

General Policy Changes

- Clarified Research Funding Sources
 - **External:** SPNSR, SP490, NONSP (FAR/SRI)
 - **Internal:** Center, startup, internal grants, etc.
- Can buy more than one **standard** computer per employee without completing Non-Standard Equipment request when **using externally derived research funds**
- **Computer lifecycle:** Users may extend the life of computers beyond the posted lifecycle limits to include downcycling to other users

Non-Standard Equipment

- Form changed from Exception Request to Non-Standard Computer Equipment and Inventory form
- **Externally derived research funds:** Non-standard requests auto-approved but captured for inventory/asset management
- **Internally derived research funds:** Non-standard requests approved once funding source confirmed as these funds share accounts with non-research funds

- Andrew: discussed issues of department level admin denying system requests.
- Kobza: IT support staff should not be a go-between for system requests. They can advise that a system is not standard and guide with an exception request. They are not in a position to deny requests.

Microsoft Authentication

- Steve and April: Legacy authentication protocols are being phased out by Microsoft.
- This process has been extended by one year due to pandemic.
- No longer planning on force-disable at the client level, but is encouraging tenants to move voluntarily.
- OU is goign to move forward with this process.
- Some folks with older devices may need to update their mail clients
- Chris: OU can run reports to see who is using old protocols and directly reach out to them to support the update process.
- Fagg: asked about Unix support
 - exchange web-services, SMPT access, and legacy IMAP (all to be phased out)
 - April to investigate options for Linux users
 - Horton shared story about compromised faculty account being used to target students and faculty with phishing scams

Last Pass has been deployed.

- Aaron reported successful launch with 11% of pop signing up for an account in one week.

Technology Survey

- Spring survey is being prepared (Biggs)
- Draft questions:

OU IT Research Support Survey

General

How well do you feel OU IT and/or the University meets the Information Technology needs of your research and creative activities?

What support services help meet your Research IT needs. Select all that are appropriate. (Self, Research Group, Department, College, OU IT, Other)

What recommendations do you have to improve the IT Research support services provided by OU IT and the University?

Computational/Data Services: Does your research and creative activities require significant computational services, beyond what is possible with your own personal computer? If so:

How are your computational research needs being supported? (Research group, Department, College, OSCER, other OU IT Services, Off-campus facilities, other)

Are there computational research needs that are not being met? If so, explain.

What services or support do you need to start and/or expand your computational research? Include support for identifying grant opportunities and creating successful grant proposals.

Would your research group benefit from having access to data science / machine learning consulting services? (help in designing and configuring data analysis pipelines and in constructing preliminary results)

Would your research group benefit from having access to hireable data science /machine learning services to support work on funded projects?

Training

What general computing/data training resources are needed by yourself, research group, department or college?

Collaborations

How well do you feel the Information Technology needs for your research and creative activities are supported by OU IT and the University? Include both internal and external services.

How can OU IT and the University improve the IT support for your research collaborations? Include collaborations across the OU campuses and those external to OU.

Solarwinds Hack

- no updates.
- Aaron: no evidence that OU was targeted using this vulnerability
- **F5** vendor also identified a vulnerability that has been patched.

Minutes by Kratz

