

# Minutes

## IT Council Agenda

April 18, 2017  
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### **Video Conferencing Locations are:**

Fairbanks-Butrovich-204

Juneau-Hendrickson-204

Anchorage-Admin 201

Nome Campus will attend via Pexip video conferencing.

### **Agenda**

#### **1. Safety Minute**

#### **2. Roll Call**

- a. Karl Kowalski, UA Chief Information Technology Officer (CITO),
- b. Martha Mason, CIO, UAF, Fairbanks,
- c. Adam Paulick, Interim CIO, UAA
- d. Patrick Shier, Interim Vice-Chancellor Administrative Services, UAA
- e. Michael Ciri, CIO, UA Southeast,
- f. Dan White, Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Research,
- g. Myron Dosch, Chief Financial Officer,
- h. Keli McGee, Chief Human Resources Officer,
- i. Gwen Gruenig, Vice-President for Planning, Budget and Strategy,
- j. Saichi Oba, Chief Student Services Officer,
- k. Sam Gingerich, Provost, UAA
- l. Kari Burrell, Vice-Chancellor of Administration UAF
- m. Joe Nelson, Vice Chancellor for Student Services UAS
- n. Bob Metcalf, Community Campus Director, Northwest Campus, Nome
- o. Systemwide chairs of each:
- p. Coalition of Student Leaders, Colby Freel
- q. Staff Alliance, Nate Bauer,
- r. Faculty Alliance, ~~Tara Smith~~, Liser Hoferkamp

#### **3. Review of Agenda**

#### **4. Approval of Minutes March 2017 meeting**

-Add in comments from Dan about SAC

#### **5. Discussion of System Wide IT Spend (30 Min)**

##### **a. Identify potential cost savings to investigate**

Maxient contract falls under IT but it could fall under broad categories. We need to do a deep dive to see what we are spending on by pulling data. Data was sorted by NCHEMS categories.

Myron: Do any of these numbers include payroll and salary/benefits? Operating has personnel numbers as well.

Mike: Spreadsheet sent to Gwen. We need to strategically reduce our spending on IT. How we track it and how we reduce it are two different categories. The big question is what do we categorize as IT? For example, Library databases.

Sam: How much money will the system spend to do this?

Myron: Having a line drawn is important because there is a functional relationship to all software. We need a tight line to what we consider IT, maybe with a sub category that includes all of the applications that do overlap.

Kari: We need to review the software programs that the campus is using. Is it worth the money, can we look at the automatic renewal contracts? We can learn from the other MAU's. We need to have a conversation about what is most effective and cost effective.

Karl: We are looking at all of the contracts that we own and we are saving money with looking at how we can reduce the contracts. Program people are looking for tools that are more efficient. They all agreed to go with the same enrollment program. Another program that was recommended by Strategic pathway, transfer equivalency tracks what courses are equivalent across all of the campus's. Also looks at other University credits and see if those can transfer over. It is more efficient and cost effective for each campus to participate and accept the program.

Dan: There is hardware, software and programming cost. They are all associated. I want to understand what this group is in charge of? How do we control what level comes up to the council?

Pat: Those are all associated with services. Data send reflects all funding sources. If we took research out the number differs. Look for areas of strategic attention.

Mike: Separating the account codes is better. Everyone needs to get on board system wide instead of individually for cost savings.

Karl: What should we be looking at? Should we look at it all?

Kari: We need to start with where the big money is because our goal is cost savings.

Myron: Decide what group takes care of academic related items, if not the council.

Pat: Look at services that have multiple components. Look at per person or employee. That is how Gartner benchmarks. It is a good place to start when we are looking to adjust.

Karl: Look to the decision made likely/unlikely/off the table chart. It was the CIOs looking at the spend categories to where we could dive into and find savings.

-Multiple copier and printer contracts across the system. Is there a potential of combining into one contract bid for the system?

-Toll Bypass with tail end hop off. We could save some significant money there. Is that a priority to save money?

- Number of servers that we own, should we virtualize? Before more servers are purchased, it needs to come to a council to see if we can do it more cost efficiently, i.e the cloud.

Myron: These topics align with the Strategic Pathways procurement objectives. We could look at it as a sub committee.

Karl: Controversial topic to cut:

-Apple products. We spend \$90K a year on Apple. Should we just go to PC for cost savings?

Mike: We spend money for preferences. Then we have to support both platforms and that is a lot of work. We are not going to save money without making the tough decisions.

Saichi: What is in the best interest for the University? How does it affect the students? We have to figure out how we support the objectives of the university.

Colby: Challenges are going to be so diverse.

Kelly: What is the criteria that we are going to use to cut something to reduce cost?

Kari: With cost savings, we can hire academic advisors. We need balance.

Pat: This group would identify the big spend and propose it to the second layer to do the research and get a presentation of the data.

Sam: Everyone of us is cutting money already. What we are talking about is strategies on what to cut.

Mike: I end up with resolutions from Faculty senate that have different opinions on what to reduce in IT. We are going to have to make drastic choices. They are going to be very unpopular decisions but necessary ones.

Nate: Another unpopular idea. Research from other universities concludes that the amount of communications over the phone is a minority. Looking at it, it is in the top 5 costs. But we should be talking about cutting the phones.

Karl: Personnel data and how we reached those numbers. Raw data dump of the personal services side. It is sorted by PCN and if it had money expended against it, it counted. We cut students out. We realized that IT money was spent against our budget when facilities did work and we will sort that out. We have all been cutting. If we are off by even 10 people, it is a downward trend. Last comparison was pulled with Educause, we pulled central and distributed IT staff. This is a ballpark for where each of the universities fall. It is for comparison. We are low in comparison to our peers.

Mike: The total number is correct but the line is blurred as to distributed IT staff. Distributed at a campus is really central to that location.

Tasks: Look through the data to look at categories to task committees with to then bring to the council.

Establish criteria for approving or denying

Pain points pushed to the next meeting.

(Adjourn at 12:05 pm)

- b. Special meeting re: IT Spend(?)
- 6. Discussion of System IT Projects/Issues/Concerns for ITC to tackle (30 Min)
  - a. Identify top three issues

**Attachments: Included in single PDF**

- a. Draft Minutes of March ITC Meeting
- b. IT Spend Overview
- c. Confidential Planning Sheet with broad options for consideration
- d. IT Projects/Issues/Concerns

**Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, May 16, 2017 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM