Web Services Advisory Committee

Chairman's Notes: 01/06/2011

The Web Services Advisory Committee was called to order and all members were in attendance in addition to topical guest speakers Fedro Zazueta and Mark McCallister. After a brief welcome, each advisory committee member introduced themselves to the group.

Fedro Zazueta opened the discussion with an overview of the IT strategic plan. He asked the advisory committee to review the collected wish list and to assist in identifying items that need priority for resource allocation and distribution. It was decided that each member would review the list and send notes and rankings to me within the next two weeks. Final discussions and recommendations will occur at the next advisory committee meeting in February. Fedro then gave an overview of the UF level web related policy.

Next, Dan Williams summarized the work and research done on mobile applications for UF. He explained that there are two groups of services, those that are specifically for students (inward facing) and others that everyone would find useful (outward facing). The first phase of mobile apps would be fairly simple and include things such as a directory, GPS-enabled maps and alerts. The more complex services like student course data may take longer to develop and would be pushed to a second phase. Dan expressed the need for UF to have a mobile web presence even if it's just the simple services to start. The advisory committee unanimously agreed to proceed on getting something going right away.

Mark McCallister finished the meeting with a discussion on iTunesU. He gave a quick overview of the current ways we store and share media files. While there are some files being shared via a private iTunesU application, the university does not have a public presence. Advisory committee members participated in a discussion on the benefit of having this presence and ultimately agreed that UF needs to be there.

In closing I mentioned next month's agenda would include final recommendations on the IT strategic plan wish list and a presentation on the redesign of the UF web page.