

## **Technology Advisory Board (TAB) Minutes of Meeting, February 21, 2007**

**Location:** Andy Holt Tower, 4th Floor Conference Room, 2:30PM

**Members in Attendance:** Jean Derco, Ray Hamilton, Robert Holub, Judy Huddleston, Tim Kresse, Faye Muly, Grant Patterson, David Ratledge, Stan Pinkleton, Law Schuelke

**Others in Attendance:** Robin McNeil, Robert Osborne

Robin McNeil called the meeting to order.

### *ECAR Student Survey*

The University of Tennessee will again participate in The ECAR Study of Undergraduate Students and Information Technology. The survey will run from March 15 through April 15 and will be given to freshmen and seniors in higher education institutions. It is a longitudinal extension of the 2004, 2005, and 2006 ECAR studies of students and their use and understanding of information technology.

As a participant in the ECAR study, the University of Tennessee was given access to the data specific to its students. Jean Derco was asked to share some highlights of the 2006 report. She reported that of the UT seniors and freshmen who participated, 93% of the seniors and 83% of the freshmen prefer that communication to them from the university be through email. Additionally, of the participants that had multiple email accounts such as a university account and at least one other account like Yahoo or Gmail, 68% of the seniors and 37% of the freshmen preferred to use their UT email account.

The full ECAR report is located at <http://web.utk.edu/~techfee/documents/ECAR2006.pdf> (please note, this document is large and may take a while to load.)

### *TAB Student membership*

Robin McNeil asked for suggestions on increasing student participation on the Technology Advisory Board and for assistance in identifying students that may want to serve on the TAB in the future. Suggestions included posting information about TAB on the OIT and SGA webpages, on Circle Park Online and Blackboard, and on tabletops in the computer labs. Members were urged to send suggestions to Ms. McNeil.

### *CTRAX*

Law Schuelke asked for information about CTRAX recent withdrawal as a music provider for the university. Stan Pinkleton explained that CTRAX had recently had technical problems and

that they had been unable to provide us with a list of our users before they abruptly ceased service. Had they been able to do so, the university would have emailed participants to inform them of the situation. It was suggested that information be provided about the music service and future developments at the [utunes.utk.edu](http://utunes.utk.edu) website as well as an announcement in the Beacon.

### *Funding for Blackboard*

Grant Patterson asked for information concerning the recent outages of Blackboard and its funding source. Judy Huddleston stated that Technology Fee funds were not used to fund Blackboard, but rather that it is funded by Facilities Fees. Ms. Derco explained that Blackboard is hosted off campus and that Blackboard had been very responsive during the recent outage. Blackboard plans to move the university's service to new hardware which will improve performance. Blackboard will be giving UT a service credit to compensate the university for the inconvenience associated with the outage.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Technology Advisory Board will be Wednesday, March 28, at 2:30 PM, in the 4th Floor Conference Room, Andy Holt Tower.