

Minutes of the TLTR Meeting – Thursday, February 1, 2001 – ELIB 211 – 8:30-10:05 am
Approved: February 23, 2001

Members Present:

Jonathan Anderson	Shirley Grubb	Todd Walter
Tia Anderson	Steve Johnson	Susan Warner
Michael Ciri	Rebecca Moorman	

Members Absent:

John Attebury	Mark Graves	Barney Norwick
Michael Byer	Steven Hamilton	
Pat Fitzgerald	Shannon Kempton	
Alice Tersteeg – Proxy to Rebecca Moorman		

Guests:

Robbie Stell	
Joseph Sears – Representing Barney Norwick	Amanda Webb (Minute Taker)

Meeting Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Approval of agenda
3. Tech Forum updates
4. Who are we and where are we going with technology?
5. Technology presentations – host any?
6. Approval of minutes (January 19th meeting)
7. Date & time of next meeting

-
1. **Call to Order** - Meeting called to order at 8:50 AM by chair, Rebecca Moorman.

Susan Warner proposed a motion to remove any TLTR committee member from the committee if that member is absent from three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings. This motion was seconded by Jonathan Anderson and passed by the committee unanimously.

2. **Approval of Agenda** - Proposed agenda was approved with no additions. The only change was to move the approval of the January 19th meeting minutes to the end of the meeting.
3. **Tech Forum Update** - Shirley referred the committee to the yellow flyer that was included with their agenda. Susan Warner brought up the fact that the forum will be in conflict with the Comtech conference. Panelists will cover their presentation more than once so that people can drop in at any time during the presentations. Barney Norwick will speak about how students can get needed job skills at UAS. Jackie Richardson will be present to explain the importance of writing your application/resume towards the specific position that you are seeking.

Tia updated everyone about the March “Women in Technology” Forum, it will be titled “Basics and Beyond”. Susan Warner and Mona Yarnall will be panelists. It will be in the Lake Room on Wednesday, March 21, 2001 from 12:00 to 1:30 pm. Tia would like it to be a hands-on workshop with laptops, but there is a chance that she won’t be able to get the laptops.

Mike C. still needs to set up a date for the UAS Online Forum in February. He would like to bring Dave Stephens down from UAA for the forum to assist in a comparison of the different course management systems. Stephens coordinates distance education technology for UAA and has been instrumental in setting up UAA Online, which is modeled after UAS Online but was set up using Blackboard. He would

be a good consultant for Blackboard and the challenges that UAA has faced. Mike C. is still looking for a good WebCT resource person. Shirley suggested Sharon Crostic as a resource for E-College. Susan asked if it was really necessary to look at more than UAS Online and Blackboard. Jonathan said that he would like to look at a variety of other options. Mike C. would like to present a variety of possibilities including hosting services like E-College, book publisher sites, and systems that other colleges have created for themselves. There is no one definite software that a high percentage of schools are using, but the two most popular systems at this time seem to be Blackboard and WebCT. One thing to really consider when looking at book publisher sites is the high price that the publisher adds to the text when they have designed a website for the book. Mike C. stated that there is a chance that the publishers would use these sites as a marketing tool. Time constraints are going to make it difficult to fairly compare all the systems. Robbie also stated that she doesn't want UAS to become totally dependent on any one vendor because of the possibility of the vendor going out of business and support issues being ignored. Mike C. is leaning towards Blackboard only because there are lots of UA resources available at this time to assist UAS in the transition. Shirley brought up the fact that rural Alaska students will have some difficulties utilizing E-College due to slower Internet connection speeds in rural areas. Mike C. would like to hold two forums: one exclusively for UAS Online in February and one as a broad comparison of a variety of course management systems in March.

4. **Who are we and where are we going with technology?** - Mike C. spoke about wireless technology and how it has allowed our technological infrastructure to grow at a rapid pace here at UAS. All of the UA campuses are looking towards wireless technology as a way to allow their infrastructure to grow, but UAS is ahead of the other campuses in this field. Anchorage has wireless classrooms, but does not have a wireless infrastructure. Fairbanks does not have wireless classrooms, but has a wireless infrastructure. He expects by mid to late spring to have a wireless campus wide network including all of the buildings on the Auke Lake campus, Student Activity Center, Bill Ray Center, and the Marine Tech Center. More and more students are coming to UAS with their own computers. The 70 available wireless cards are always checked out, and there is never a pool of extra cards. There is a great demand for checkout laptops and the pool of laptops is expected to grow at a rate of 10 per year. The OC3 Internet connection is coming. This connection will help to dramatically speed up Internet connection speeds and make video conferencing easier to utilize in small groups and in faculty member's offices. The OC3 connection is expected to happen around March 15, 2001. Computing Services would like to maintain licenses to provide software applications for students' own computers as an added value.

Susan Warner spoke about the Media Services side of technology. Media Services is working towards going digital with their functions, which are essentially the content side of courses. They are currently looking at how to go online with the development, management, and publication of content. The four major areas of this are: (1) the support for the University community, (2) technology skills development, (3) support for digital collections, and (4) the advancement of media literacy. The State of Alaska is considering combining all of their telecommunications services and putting them onto one infrastructure throughout the state.

Mike C. also talked about digital projectors. They are becoming essential to most courses and it is becoming a need to have permanent projectors in the classrooms that hold a high percentage of UAS classes. Media Services can't continually service the campus with a checkout pool of projectors. These classrooms will also need projection screens and the physical plant will need to evaluate the wiring in the older buildings.

Tia asked about what is being done for students who are not proficient with technology and if there is any training being offered to help familiarize these students with technology. Mike C. said that the Technology Support staff is willing to provide training to students and faculty who are interested in learning how to utilize the necessary technology. Tia is also concerned about those students who do not have home computers and are unable to access the campus labs due to scheduling conflicts. The committee responded that the labs are open seven days a week and for a variety of hours. Tia will go back to these students and ask them about specific days and times that they need access. Jonathan

Minutes of the TLTR Meeting – Thursday, February 1, 2001 – ELIB 211 – 8:30-10:05 am
Approved: February 23, 2001

Anderson asked about computers available downtown for students to use. Shirley responded that there is a class lab at the BRC, but there is no one available to monitor the lab. Tia brought up that Student Government has subsidized Surf Alaska in the past so that UAS students could go use computers for free downtown, she will look into whether or not this facility was used enough to justify the cost.

5. **Technology Presentations – host any?** - Robbie would like to see that there is a real interest in either of the presentations before a speaker is brought in. Interest was expressed in Steve Johnson presenting what he has been doing for his distance CIOS courses. He will do a short presentation at the next meeting.
6. **Approval of Minutes** - Due to the loss of a quorum the approval of the minutes will be moved to the February 23, 2001 meeting.
7. **Date & Time of Next Meeting** - Next meeting will be on Friday, February 23, 2001 at 3:00 pm in ELIB 211. Some possible agenda items include Steve's Presentation, a review of the Tech Fee Proposals, and a creation of a policy for the laptop/projector checkout.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.