Information Technology Committee (ITC) Minutes

Meeting Date: April 13, 2-3 pm (regular meeting)
Circulated: 10/18/2023
Approved: 10/24/2023

Present: Heather O’Malley (Chair), Ravi Pendse (VP for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer), Vashni Santee (Executive Assistant to VP Pendse), Vivek Kumar, Magda Ivanova, Zhixin Liu, Ann Marshall (FSO), Maura Seale

1. Meeting called to order at 2:05 and minutes from the March meeting were approved.

2. The behind the scenes tour of CrowdStrike Falcon will be scheduled for May

3. End of Year Wrap-up Discussion
   • VP Pendse thanked the Chair and ITC members for their engagement and invited committee members to continue to raise questions, including by contacting VP Pendse’s Executive Assistant, Vashni Santee.
   • The committee expressed appreciation for VP Pendse’s efforts, including: following through on issues raised during the pandemic, noting how well classroom technology worked in the past year; VP Pendse’s transparency and openness to discussion on important privacy issues.
   • VP Pendse explained that Visioning 2034 (Where does UM want to be in 2034?) and the Campus Masterplan (What are UM facilities’ needs and how might UM grow/develop?) are distinct and yet also simultaneous efforts, both with core IT components.
   • There was a discussion on the possible long term cost efficiencies of installing sensors in both new and existing buildings to help monitor HVAC and other systems. Extensive damage to IT equipment, with high costs, were incurred from water damage due to a pipe that burst on campus after a window was left open. Such sensors may also raise questions about privacy/transparency and the need for communication about how such sensors work both on campus and in one’s own home.

4. Potential Issues for ITC input in 2023-2024 (VP Pense)
   • IT Visioning for 2034 is an opportunity for faculty input on IT issues.
   • A new version of UM’s enterprise resource planning (ERP), e.g. Peoplesoft, that includes payroll, student transcripts and more. This is a very large project for IT and UM’s current system is highly customized from the vendor version and will require much testing for a good transition. There may also be opportunities for increased collaboration with UM-Dearborn and UM-Flint on this project.
   • IT support for research computing, including generative AI.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Marshall (FSO, Faculty Governance Coordinator)