

WOC meeting minutes

April 16, 2008

Present: Todd Sutton (TS), Mike Byers(MBy), Miriam Barkley(MB), John Eatman(JE) Kevin McClain(KM), Bruce Michaels(BM), Michele Soler(MS), Jason Fleck (for Ellen Robbins)(JF),

Recorder: Sherri MacCheyne

Spanish Translation Pages – MB

Miriam showed some samples of web pages that have two versions – one in English, and one translated in Spanish. The translation ranges from no translation to full translation.

PIER Site – MB

We have been using the PIER site for a little over a year. There are some frustrations with it.

The various emergency group pages will all be on one page in PIER. This will most likely be a summer project.

Google Customer Advisory Board – TS

Members of the board include UNCG, Abilene Christian University, University of Southern California, Central Piedmont Community College, Northwestern University and Arizona State University.

UNCG is ahead of the other schools in archiving and retention.

Postini – we need to have a contract in place with Google before we can continue. Todd has proposed a pricing structure to Google. We hope to have a small pilot in the summer.

If a decision is made to outsource Faculty/Staff email, We are looking to begin moving Faculty/Staff over to Google by January 2009 – this is *not* a hard date.

Personal start page – iGoogle page. We have the ability to lock a tab to push UNCG information to staff/students.

Google is reworking iGoogle environment to be open social which will allow gadget-sharing (Myspace, Facebook, etc.)

Google is also working on Federated Authentication so that secure data transfer can take place.

JE stated that we don't want to make a short term solution.

TS assured him this is not interim. If students are at Google, and, we are moving faculty staff to Google, then this could become our development environment.

JE was concerned with cost.

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TS assured JE that at this point, there is no cost involved.

JE mentioned that other companies are providing disk space cheaper than ITS is.

JF – students are already using Google. We would have a better chance of students reading UNCG information through Google than if we have another place for them to go.

KM – all students have to go to Genie to register for classes. Will ITS be moving Genie Services to Google?

JE sees everything moving to Blackboard.

TS – we are going to be hard pressed to have a single place for all – Bb, Genie, Email. I think if we need to have data portable enough to go to all these places.

KM – to what degree is Google committed to keeping up with industry standards?

TS – Google is standards-based. If they move away from that, a lot of entities quit using them.

KM – why would students want another iGoogle page?

TS – since we are providing better services with Google, we will have a much higher adoption rate.

KM – we would have to make massive commitments.

JE – no matter what we do, we have a personnel issue.

TS – the standard gadget build time is not very long. Andrew’s first gadget took 2 days – this includes the “learning curve.”

KM, JF – will do research. Maybe we can talk about it in W3.

MB – Who does WOC bring this to for approval?

TS – we aren’t looking for approval at this point. We are only asking for input.

JE – The Dean’s council will be more responsive if there is a demo given to them and they are involved in the decision making process sooner rather than later.

MS – can students create their own gadgets?

TS – personal gadgets, yes, UNCG domain specific, no.

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JF – if it is there, hopefully they will use it.

TS – let's discuss in W3.

TS – The go-live date for remaining student email to Gmail is August 8.

KM – is there a Pass-through Authentication through google?

TS – will find out.

Web4 – MB

We have requested funds for the Web4 renovation.

MS – what about other new site?

MB – the other site, knowmore.uncg.edu is an external marketing stie.

Next Meeting - May 21, 3:30 pm – EUC Azalea Room.