Faculty Senate IT Committee – Final Summary

Classrooms

CTL organized open house-type presentations of the newly remodeled classrooms to provide faculty, staff, and students the opportunity to voice their opinions about the equipment currently installed. Since these are model classrooms they have various different types of technologies available. In the future it would be nice to see more faculty participation in those types of events.

CaTS installed a camera system in 125 Oelman as a potential candidate to replace the older IVDL equipment. These systems are capable of tracking the presenter and it is possible to view specific members within the audience once they themselves start asking questions. Most of this happens fully automatic. This system is still being developed so not all features are activated yet. CaTS will invite different colleges and departments as well as host open house for people to check out the capabilities and see how well this type of equipment serves their needs.

Managed printing

Since we now switched to the new managed print service it is regularly on the IT committee's agenda to try to resolve any existing issues. Some issues include printing on WSU letterhead. While this is possible (without yelling down the hallway requesting for people not to print), there needs to be more information about how to use the printers. It seems that the interface is not intuitive enough so that additional information should be provided on Wright State's web site.

In some areas, printers are used a lot and printing seems slow so that the administration may have to look into those areas to see if additional printers should be installed.

Under some circumstances (e.g. when using Linux), essential features of the managed printing services are not available making deployment infeasible. This needs to be addressed or alternatives provided.

We discussed the issue about previous printers being removed. The Provost's office assured us that printers under warranty are still being maintained and that the removal of printers is not yet enforced in any way. The Managed Print Services Guidelines and Procedures only refers to networked printers, not printers that are directly connected.

Cyber security

Since we are receiving more and more phishing attempts lately, CaTS has available a system called TAP that scans incoming emails and tries to identify phishing attempts automatically. If one is detected it will sanitize the link so that it points to a different web site. When clicked on, it will direct to a web site with a warning message saying that the system detected this link as part of a phishing attempt. So this is essentially added capability similar to what we are already doing for SPAM filtering. As with all automatic systems there is a small chance that some information gets trapped erroneously. CaTS has the ability to white list so that faculty can inform CaTS to get things added to that white list.

Technology updates

CaTS is planning on making Office 2016 available for use on campus.

Some teaching labs were switched over to a virtual environment called VDI using thin clients on the frontend. This makes management (installing of software, resolving technological issues) easier as well as reduce boot-up time significantly.