

Senate Computing and information Technology Committee
Meeting Minutes – September 28, 2023

Present: A. Zack, I. Frieze, K. Libertas, H. Fischer, R. Kear, M. Henderson, A. Hobaugh, A. Jamal, S. Quigley, I. Murtazashvili, M. Tang, D. Kielur, A. Jamal, S. Belle, K. Fish, B. Hart

Absent: J. Costantino, A. Jones, V. Arena, S. LeMieux, S. Sereika, J. Shaibani, H. Venkatesh, S. Wisniewski, P. Morel

Called to Order: 1:00 p.m. Minutes of the April 19 meeting approved.

Zack introduced herself as the new chair, followed by introduction of members.

➤ Draft University Policy “Access to and Use of University Computing Resources”

Hart, who served as chair of the policy committee, gave an overview of this policy, which is an update to the “Computer Access and Use” policy that has been in place for many years. The revisions include updates concerning fair and equitable use of resources, privacy language, and the responsibility of users and the University with respect to use of University-owned computing resources. An additional clarification is that personally-owned resources used are not covered by the policy.

- Questions arose concerning the restrictions on engaging in political activity. Hart clarified that this restriction applies to stating or implying that the University is endorsing or backing a particular candidate for office, but is not a restriction on individual speech.
- Frieze asked about the “regular ongoing security assessments” indicated in the policy. Hart explained that Pitt IT Security conducts periodic assessments on the security of all computing systems to be sure these systems are adequately protected.
- Regarding some lack of specificity in certain items in the draft, Hart indicated that it is not possible to foresee new requirements or future circumstances.

➤ Policy Committees – Kear indicated that the University Senate has been asked for appointees to three policy committees:

- Libertas has already volunteered to serve on the Identity Theft policy committee.
- Fish volunteered to serve on the Privacy Policy committee.
- Murtazashvili volunteered for the Information Security Policy committee.

➤ Software Licensing Help Sheet – new draft of the document presented in April will be available for review before the next meeting.

➤ Member Concerns

- School of Nursing Wi-Fi – Sereika submitted a concern via email prior to the meeting about recent issues with wi-fi service in the School of Nursing. Hobaugh reported that the issues were caused by a vendor software bug which has now been corrected. He thanked Sereika for providing helpful information to his team, noting that he has followed up with her.
- Challenge Ordering Mobile Phones – Doty submitted an email in advance of the meeting about a concern with a colleague being told he could not order a new mobile phone because of a

- s new policy being put in place by Purchasing. Hart noted that the report came in just before the meeting and it might be helpful to invite Purchasing Services to the next meeting to address the issues.

➤ Pitt IT Report

- Henderson reported on the continuing transformation within Pitt IT. Engagement Leaders have been assigned to University units to develop relationships with each where Pitt IT can understand the priorities and goals of each unit. Customer Success Managers are responsible for bringing Pitt IT and appropriate technologies to bear in addressing unit needs. Pitt IT is accountable to academic units under the University's new budget model and is working to ensure responsiveness and engagement. In addition, Pitt IT now has a Transformation Office to ensure that the organization is responsive and enabled to change in response to changing customer priorities.

Murtazashvili noted that in GSPIA's partnership with Pitt IT, IT staff were moved out of the school, but then more recently moved back in several days a week. Faculty appreciate having someone onsite when issues arise. Henderson indicated that this change is part of Pitt IT's engagement with all units moving forward.

Meeting Adjourned 2:00 p.m.