

**Joint IT and Library Committees Meeting Minutes**  
**February 11, 2009 - Noon – 1:05 PM**  
**Austin Conference Room, Tisch Library**

**Present: LC Members:** Michael Reed; Gina Kuperberg; Patrick Forber; John McDonald; David Proctor; Mark Kachanov; Jenna Kubly; Greg Crane; Dan Pasternak; Antonella Scarano; **Ex Officio Members:** Jo-Ann Michalak; Laura Walters; **IT Committee Members:** Michael Reed; Genevieve Walsh; Lee Minardi; David Proctor; Howard Woolf; Judy Stafford; Chas Morrison; Sam Wallis; **Ex Officio Member:** Jim Roberts

**Absent: LC Members:** David Sloane (on sabbatical); **Ex Officio Member:** Dean McIntosh; **IT Committee Members:** Hugh Gallagher; Eric Miller; Austin Napier

**Guest:** Chris Strauber, Humanities Reference Librarian, Coordinator of Instructional Design, Tisch Library

Michael Reed, chair of both the Library and the IT Committees, began the meeting at noon with everyone introducing themselves, and then segued into the agenda as follows:

**1. Update on Replacement LMS - *Chris Strauber***

Chris explained that the project's scope has changed due to the economic crisis. AS&E and Fletcher schools' faculty, student, and staff focus groups were completed this past fall. Integrating the medical, dental, nutrition, and vet schools into the platform is being considered now since broader inclusion might translate into cost-savings and procurement of the best product for Tufts. As a result of the wider school scope, focus groups will need to be broadened in order to capture requirements and needs accurately. Following the completion of these focus groups, a year will be spent assessing how to best support the platform across the schools, and to manage the transition to the new system. The new implementation target is FY11. Members of the group raised questions about TUSK, Spark wikis, e-portfolios, and the ability of the systems under discussion to assess and track student knowledge and learning. Chris answered questions and directed the group to the LMS website: [www.go.tufts.edu/LMS](http://www.go.tufts.edu/LMS) where more detailed information is posted and comments/questions can be sent. Jim Roberts clarified many aspects of the LMS requirements as well as the capabilities and nuances of TUSK v. Blackboard.

**2. Update on Faculty Research Study and Learning Commons - *Laura Walters***

Laura reported that the faculty research study is being undertaken as a result of Tisch Library's most recent strategic plan. Thirty A&S and ten to fifteen Engineering faculty members will be interviewed in order to assess how they do research and what their teaching process is. To date twenty-five A&S faculty members have been interviewed. The goal is to interview at least one faculty member per department. The deans have been instrumental in identifying faculty. Digital Collections and Archives, Academic Technology, and ITS are partners in this study. The interviews will be completed this spring; the data will be analyzed this summer. The data will inform the Learning Commons' plans, which will include resources for media, video production, research, and presentation design and development. Recommendations for the Learning Commons will be proposed in fall 2009; FY11 is the current target for implementation. Advancement remains optimistic about raising funds for the Learning Commons' construction.

**3. Berger Grants - *Jo-Ann Michalak***

Jo-Ann asked the group to identify what would encourage faculty to submit Berger grant proposals. Gina Kuperberg and others responded that the constraints of the grant were too large, especially the prohibition on purchasing hardware with grant money, for the amount of money that is awarded.

**4. Other Joint IT Projects and Issues - All**

Jim Roberts updated the group about the campus-wide wireless installation project. Wireless was installed last summer in two dorms that had been identified by the deans. Wireless installation throughout most of AS&E will be phased in over the next few years. Several Library and IT Committees members raised the issue of wireless installation in the classrooms. Jim stated that faculty could request wireless for their class, but that campus-wide classroom wireless was not viewed as a priority. Additionally, there are concerns about student wireless abuse during class time.

Discussion about Safari books, Knovel, and e-books and e-titles followed. Laura Walters requested that faculty speak with the librarians if they had any questions or requests. The Google books issue also was raised. Laura advised the group that there was one last court decision to be made in the case before the settlement is finalized. Google's proposal is for 2 separate payment models – one for in-print materials between 1923 and 2009, the other for out-of-print materials in that same time frame. Laura pointed out that all books and journals dated before 1923 are free on Google. Furthermore, she directed users to **Google Scholar** for free access to journals post-1923.

**5. Tisch Library Director's Report – Jo-Ann Michalak (see attached report)**

Jo-Ann reported on the FY10 library budget. While the library needs an 8% increase to cover inflation, obtaining this increase may not be possible because of the economic situation. Definitive information will be forthcoming shortly since a balanced budget must be submitted soon.

Preliminary agenda items for next year's joint Library and IT Committees meeting include the results of the faculty study, the Learning Commons, and the library's budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM. The next Library Committee Meeting will be on April 8, 2009 from noon – 1:15 PM in the Austin Conference Room.