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Greg Gardella, *At Large*
Ron Phaneuf, *At Large*
Robin Gonzalez, *Senate Manager*

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JUN 17 2006

President's Office

May 16, 2006

Request for Action from the UNR Faculty Senate

TO: Joseph N. Crowley, President

FROM: Leah Wilds *Wilds*

The 2005-2006 Faculty Senate requests your action on the following motion that was approved at its April 20, 2006 meeting:

Technology Committee

"The Faculty Senate approves the Technology Committee year-end report as presented."

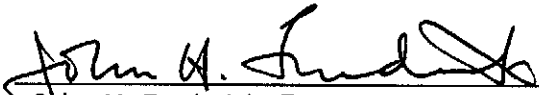
The Technology Committee, under the leadership of Howard Goldbaum, was charged with the following:

1. Review policies for software grant applicant eligibility. The current policy allows for all full- or part-time faculty (whether permanent or temporary) to apply. Make appropriate recommendations for policy language.
2. Appoint a liaison to the Chancellor's Technology Task Force. Provide representation to the Task Force regarding the needs of faculty as an ERP system is evaluated. Report decisions and actions of the Task Force to the Senate through the Technology Committee as needed.
3. Work with Steve Zink to explore the need for the University to fund the purchase of notebook computers for faculty. Does the laptop replacement fund need additional appropriations? Is it appropriate for the Senate to endorse the purchase of laptop computers over desktop computers? Make appropriate recommendations.
4. Examine the perceived quality of technical support provided to faculty by the University Help Desk and Support Center. Are faculty receiving timely responses and are they satisfied with the quality of information? Provide a summary of faculty perceptions of quality and recommendations for improvements, if appropriate.

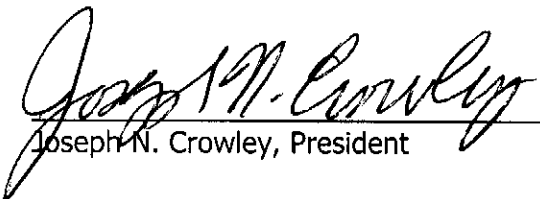
The Committee's report and recommendations are attached. We look forward to your support in ensuring these recommendations are implemented.

If you would like to discuss this with the executive board, please contact Robin Gonzalez to arrange a meeting time.

C: J.H. Frederick
S. Zink
J. Vreeland

Recommended by: 
John H. Frederick, Executive Vice President and Provost

6/26/06
Date

Approved by: 
Joseph N. Crowley, President

6-29-06
Date

2005 Year-End Report to the Faculty Senate from the Technology Committee (111)

For the April 20, 2006 Senate Meeting

Faculty Software-Granting Process

1. The faculty software-granting process resulted in 62 applications from academic and administrative faculty.
2. The committee's funding for the 2005-2006 academic year was \$20,000, allowing the funding of 23 projects, or about 1/3 of the requests, in whole or in part.
3. Those awarded funding grants in most cases had their software installed and available for use before the end of the first semester.
4. Last year, the 111 Committee asked the Senate to seek additional funding to enhance the faculty software-granting program. As this is the only program specifically designed to fund faculty requests for software, it seemed to the committee that \$20,000 is not a sufficient amount to effectively respond to the needs of faculty within both their teaching roles and their research expectations.

Although the Senate Executive Board did request this additional funding last year, the additional monies were not forthcoming. We were encouraged by the Vice Provost, however, to submit this request again for the next fiscal year.

Therefore the 111 committee once again is asking the Senate to forward such a request.

IT Survey

Within its other charge — to conduct a survey regarding faculty perceptions of the range of IT services, the committee (with Senate Executive Board agreement) elected to partner with IT in this effort. The resulting survey instrument has been edited and modified at several stages by the 111 committee. It is scheduled to be rolled out during the week of April 17th

iNtegrate Project

The committee named a representative (George McKinlay) to the NSHE *iNtegrate* project. Feedback from George and from others on our campus led the 111 committee to suggest the formation of an *ad-hoc* committee to investigate shortcomings within the *iNtegrate* process. The concerns expressed by this group, added to the voices of others throughout System, resulted in the *iNtegrate* project returning to the campuses for additional meaningful input.

Other Issues Addressed by the Committee

- "SMARTHINKING" is a new Web-based "remote tutoring" service that is now in use at UNLV and TMCC. Our IT people wish to investigate the service for possible deployment here at UNR,

and they've asked the Faculty Senate Technology Committee to find colleagues willing to take a look at it.

- What are our new spam-fighting technologies and what are the potential impacts on faculty email functionality?
- What can be done to increase the amount of storage available in email Inboxes?
- When can we conclude an agreement with Charter Communications so that faculty – and classrooms – can have access to broadcast and cable TV content?
- The new phone system (see <http://www.it.unr.edu/pbx.asp>)
- Implications of merger of *WebCT* with *BlackBoard*