

Web Services Advisory Committee

Chairman's Notes: 06/14/2011

The Web Services Advisory Committee was called to order with the following committee members in attendance: Andy Fletcher, Chair; Anne Allen, Debra Amirin, Kris Kirmse, Mindy McAdams, Daniel McCoy, Carlos Morales, Melanie Ross, Jeff Stevens and Dan Williams.

The advisory committee started with an update on sub-committees.

Debra Amirin, policy subcommittee chair, reported on the subcommittee's consensus on the social media policy that was recently announced through Human Resources. The members felt that because the policy was so far along in the process, and had already been vetted by several groups, their role was to submit comments and suggestions on what already existed. Debra also commented that her group was somewhat fuzzy on the scope of the subcommittee. They've decided to move forward with policies that are clearly IT/web specific and figure out the rest as they go along. The subcommittee's next step will be to revise the current IT Web policies. We again discussed the fact that the advisory committee and any subcommittees are not the official authority on any of the web topics. They are all in place to assist and provide guidance and suggestions to the IT Policy Council and above.

Jeff Stevens, social media subcommittee chair, reported that his member list has been finalized and they are still working on a meeting schedule. Initial discussions included repurposing web administration's web design and development blog to serve as a resource for internal community and to promote UF's expertise to external audiences.

Dan Williams, mobile subcommittee chair, reported that his committee has reviewed mobile strategies employed by other universities and identified objectives for a mobile campus. He also noted that the new mobile application is live and in use.

We finished with a presentation by University Relations web designer, Al Kirby. His focus was on the idea of creating a phase 1/step 1 to the ufl.edu redesign. This first phase would merely be a graphical change and not tackle editing/updating information on the current homepage. The advisory group discussed and agreed with doing a first step now to at least get a more modern looking page up in a short period of time. Members did stress the possibility of using a content management system (CMS) during this first step and recommended a combination of WordPress and Drupal.

Phase 2 would be the complete ufl.edu redesign and would be worked on simultaneously with phase 1. To begin, we'll schedule a full day brainstorming sessions to begin the strategic planning process. These sessions will also include assigning external audience accountants that will work closely with the redesign team. Dates will be sent out shortly for availability and advisory committee members are welcome to join and to recommend others.

The meeting concluded with a reminder that our next meeting is scheduled for July 14th.