

Faculty Committee on Educational Technology

Meeting Minutes: February 15, 2013

Officers: Elizabeth Jurisich, Chair; Anthony Bishara, Secretary

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM in Robert Scott Small Room 353

Attendance: *Members:* Emily Beck, Anthony Bishara, Bob Cape, Margaret Cormack, Elizabeth Jurisich, Monica Lavin (via phone), David Parisi, Emily Rosko, Vijay Vulava

Agenda:

1. Vote on Minutes of last meeting.
2. Further discussion of the strategic plan for fiscal year beginning July 1. Further information about the committee being formed. Discuss what issues the FETC would like to prioritize in the strategic plan.
3. Does the FETC want to make specific recommendations to the senate/or above committee? Is there support for a resolution to move classroom computers to a four year replacement cycle? Q for CIO: Is this feasible?
4. Discussion of Listservs and Forums. Evaluate the efficacy of the current system. Anthony B. has some data to share. Previous FETC documents will be available (sent via email to the committee).
5. Other discussion/reports.

Discussion of Agenda Items:

2. IT Plan Committee. Bob:

- Includes numerous IT constituents
- Has no specific relationship to FETC (or other standing committees), but does include some FETC committee members
- Goal is to define/prioritize IT work for 2014
- Goal is to finish by April 12
- IT plan open forum will occur on March 13

3. FETC Recommendations

- Liz: should we prioritize classroom pc replacement?
- Bob:
 - 754 classroom computers
 - 181 over 4 years old
 - Since Jan. 1, 2011, 273 have been replaced
 - ~6 OptiPlex 620's will be replaced by beginning of fall semester, and 30 next year
 - 4-year replacement on classroom computers would require \$282k and 1 staff position
 - See IT website for replacement policy: <http://it.cofc.edu/computing/replacement/index.php>
- Discussion ensued about the related issue of accelerating existing classroom computers (particularly startup)
 - Web-based interface option on Chromebooks?
 - Cloud computing & Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) pilot projects are already occurring
 - Chromebooks/Cloud/VDI seem like long-term solutions – what about short-term?
 - FETC could focus on objectives, timeline, justification, not necessarily how to achieve
 - Alejandro Torres is experimenting with making start up times quicker on classroom computers

4. Listservs and Forums

- Anthony presented data (attached at the end of these minutes).
 - FacultyAndStaff listserv volume has remained unchanged since the introduction of the Forums
 - Forum usage is much lower than corresponding listserv usage used to be
 - The data suggest that the problem is not simply due to the login/password for the forums
- Andrew Bergstrom leads the forums project and will try to attend a later meeting.
- We could consider methods of having cross-campus discussions and announcements.

Decisions Made:

- Minutes approved for 1/10/13 (by email)

Meeting adjourned: 2:00 PM

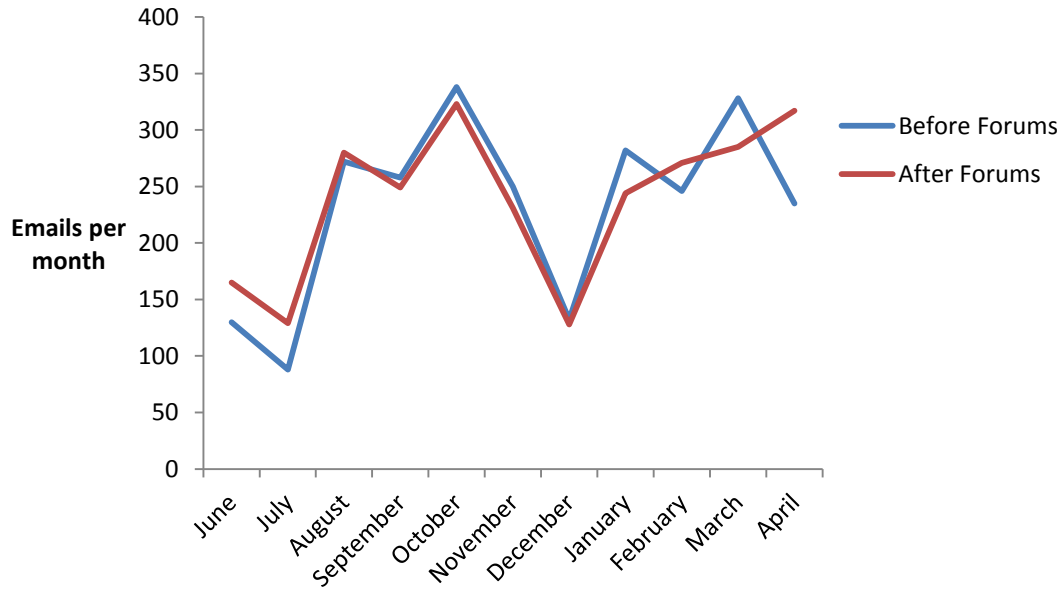
Next Meeting: 3/22/13 at 1pm in RSS 353

Forum and Listserv Usage

There were several reasons to adopt the forums, but the primary reason was that there was a high volume of FacultyAndStaff listserv use, with the inappropriate messages diluting the impact of the appropriate ones. It was hoped that the forums would 1) reduce the high volume on the FacultyAndStaff listserv, and 2) do so by shifting messages to their appropriate channels on the forums.

1) Unfortunately, FacultyAndStaff listserv volume has remained at about the same levels since the introduction

Emails sent to FACULTYANDSTAFF@LISTSERV.COFC.EDU in the year before and after the introduction of forums (May 9, 2011)



*May is excluded given that it is the month during which the forums were introduced of the Forums:

2) Unfortunately, current forum usage is much lower than was corresponding listserv usage:

	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2013	
	Listserv messages	Forum messages (posts + replies)	Forum messages as a percentage of listserv messages.
Classifieds	149	18	12%
OpenDiscussion	93	4	4%
Events	41	1	2%

Note that the problem is unlikely to be with the login/password for the forums, as no login/password is required for Events.