WebCT

The April 13 meeting was devoted to a discussion about how each campus intends to provide online instruction and course management in the coming biennium if the legislature does not fund the $5.8 million request. CTO's were urged to invite interested parties from their campuses, and there were a number of distance education staff members present.

In previous meetings Lori Temple had stated that UNLV would be moving to Vista in the coming biennium. Prior to the April 13 meeting, SCS had some discussion with Lori about the role SCS might play if any other campuses were interested in forming a Vista consortium. Lori and Chris Gaub sent some information to the CTO's before the meeting concerning consortium architectural possibilities (how multiple instances are supported), human resource support requirements, and Vista licensing costs.

Each campus discussed their likely moves based on costs and strategic directions for online instruction. UNLV, CCSN and NSC expressed interest in forming a consortium to move to Vista. UNR expressed an interest in moving to Campus Edition 6. TMCC is exploring Open Source possibilities, but plans to stay with the SCS provided WebCT for the immediate future. WNCC and GBC plan to stay with the combined SCS system because anything else is cost prohibitive for them. It was decided to continue the discussion at the next CTO meeting.

The April 20 meeting picked up the conversation where it had ended. Chris Gaub had provided an updated WebCT spreadsheet. It included the one-time perpetual license fees, the 13 month and 12 month ongoing costs and the support costs for Vista, as well as the current and projected costs for Campus Edition 4x. (The new Vista license will start off with a 13 month license to get UCCSN on a schedule that fits our fiscal year.) Becky Seibert committed SCS to pay the one-time perpetual license fees for the Vista consortium. The reasons for this are: 1) SCS has some unexpected one-time money this year that could be used and 2) buying into a consortium at this time leaves the door open for other institutions to join at a later date. Each campus reiterated the same decision that had been put forth at the April 13 meeting. May 1 was set as a deadline for each campus to make a firm decision about what kind of WebCT license it will have for the coming year. On May 1 Chris will bill the campuses and put together the payment for all the WebCT licenses for the next fiscal year.

The three institutions planning to form a Vista consortium will have further meetings to discuss hardware, support, training and other common issues. Lori expects to order five servers, three for the applications and two for the data. The cost will probably be close to a half million dollars. Beth Theuret will be the SCS representative with respect to

locating the new Vista equipment in the SCS Las Vegas data center and providing operations support.

Integrated Information System

Roberta Roth spoke with the CTO's about their role as members of the ERP project team. They had received copies of the project team charter and org chart before the meeting. Roberta has been speaking with the various groups, such as student affairs council and business officers, who will be part of the project team. Becky explained that information would be available to the project team and the UCCSN community on the SCS website (www.scs.nevada.edu) under Integrated Information System (ERP) Project Status. Eventually all project team members will receive a login and password for access to the working section of the website. Becky asked for input on which technical folks should be included with the consultants in the upcoming discussions about ERP architectural strategies. UNR: Zink and McKinney; UNLV: IISSG committee; TMCC: Zideck and Winslow; NSC: Chongtai and maybe the VP's; CCSN: Technology Steering Committee; and GBC: Cox and McCarty.

SPAM Notification

Sally Phares explained that SCS is now screening Pioneer and Fallon email for possible SPAM and is marking such with a SPAM notice in the email subject line. Customers are urged to contact campus and SCS help desks for assistance in using that notification to do their own personal screening. Lori told the group that UNLV is now referring to email on Pioneer and Rebel Mail. This is to distinguish it from the email UNLV staff use on Lotus Notes. It is also to eliminate the use of the multiple names used in the past like: pine, unix, pioneer, scs, etc.