CTO Minutes – April 29 10:15 – 2:00
CCSN West Charleston – third floor conference room – D323

President Gianini welcomed the group to the CCSN campus and spoke about how important a role they play.

All CTOs were present. Guests included Joan McGee, Kody Kearns, Sally Phares, Ed Anderson and Roberta Roth.

1. Campus Technology Officers Introductions and Campus Activities.

UNR: Steve Zink spoke about UNR's commitment to link information technology to strategic planning and fund it accordingly. He received about four million dollars for a wide range of initiatives. A major campus network upgrade is underway and includes wireless connectivity complete for half of the campus. Desktop computers are on a three to four year replacement cycle. Support for desktops includes Microsoft licensing and LANDesk management. Various security tools are in place including Netscreen, internal firewalls, campus-wide antivirus software and local Microsoft update servers. UNR uses Active Directory, called Net ID at UNR. Data warehousing projects include an extensive student information system, grant administration, managing development data, and telephone bill tracking. Document imaging and photo management are underway. UNR has a new position for communication about technology services. Efforts are in progress to improve targeting of campus-wide email announcements.

WNCC: Don Moxley reported work in progress to equip two new WNCC buildings, a library and observatory. The plan is to use a domino plan and update vacant buildings as functions are moved. WNCC will soon have its own web server and will be using AdAstra for class scheduling. WNCC uses Hewlett Packard equipment and Novell. They are upgrading two administrative servers, will soon extend their digital phone system to most campuses, and have nearly completed a gigabit ethernet backbone with firewalls at each location. Don is consolidating servers into one location for security and is beginning a disaster recovery project. 200 desktops have been replaced this year in the three to four year replacement cycle. PCs are managed with ZenWorks. Lab consolidation and eliminating individual web hosts are goals. Don has service level agreements in place to manage administrative work requests. Another goal is to obtain certifications for more of the staff. Server management tools used include IManager, IMonitor, IFolder and IPrint. WNCC uses GroupWise and Wonder Desk. Don is implementing centralized closed circuit camera surveillance. He is concerned about managing public computers and is having difficulty filling positions.

DRI: Lyle Pritchett's staff is now residing in temporary modular units. A positive funding development was the guarantee that 4% of direct recovery revenues would go to IT. Lyle did actually get three and a half percent but is worried that it might not continue. Because DRI moved its financial data warehouse to SCS Lyle received some additional programming staff. The Access Grid node in Reno is functional; Las Vegas will be up soon. The six sided CAVE system is in place and will be used for fire modeling among

other uses. Wireless networks in Reno and Las Vegas had to have special security to meet DOE standards. They are encrypted and password protected. DRI is implementing an encrypted remote access VPN. They use voice over IP between Las Vegas and Reno and have put their card key system on the data network. DRI has formed a data committee to integrate databases and is considering building a single web interface to them. They are working on UPortal for their intranet. Lyle is having problems with Colieus.

CCSN: Al Valbuena wears several hats—Information Technology, Strategic Planning and the most recent, Faculty and Staff Development. In his short time at CCSN he has identified several important challenges--the distribution of services among several major large campuses; a budget that reflects 1970's spending levels; the need to refocus priorities on student-centered activities; and the lack of integration among the system applications for student, financial and human resources information. Al sees that the UCCSN institutions have much in common and hopes to work toward better ways to share resources and leverage opportunities to benefit all. He has begun several initiatives which can be of benefit to other institutions in the future. CCSN has contracted with IBM for a needs analysis leading to the ability to integrate data. He is working with SCS on this. CCSN is also studying various student needs with respect to a service center and to providing tools for monitoring students' progress.   Al believes there is a place for outsourcing: "Our business is not email or networking; it is providing services to students." Al has joined the SAKAI consortium and hopes CCSN will reap some benefits. CCSN is doing a feasibility study for document imaging. Partnerships are an important tool for Al and he has proposed a grant that would partner CCSN with the supercomputer center. It is Al's goal to achieve improvements for all UCCSN institutions through teamwork. He is concerned about the status of the six million dollar Technology Mediated Instruction 2005-07 budget request. CCSN has over 12000 students using WebCT and they generate thirteen million dollars in revenue per year. If the system initiative is unlikely to be funded, CCSN will pursue other avenues.

TMCC: Steve Zideck reported a new 250,000 sq ft Student Center has been completed. That building and the library will be the first TMCC wireless buildings. A new microwave link is being added to connect the Meadowood South Center. A data warehouse replication project for disaster recovery is in progress. A server is being readied to serve faculty who find freeware and open source academic solutions they want to experiment with. TMCC has adapted an open source course management product, Moodle, to assist with personnel searches. Mobile satellite downlinks are being used. The Applications group is working on the integration of data from the TMCC data warehouse. The biggest challenge is to standardize the rules and procedures. ERMA is being used in the integration. It will incorporate web forms, self service and authentication. Dynamic Enrollment Modeling System is being used for scheduling. TMCC is considering portal technology. A major reorganization of academic administration is underway. TMCC is working on a professional leave and accounting system and plans the same for classified employees. TMCC uses MS SQL Server and .Net.

GBC: Jeff Cox is planning for wireless connectivity. GBC uses GroupWise, Novell and ZenWorks. He hopes to update the Elko campus network and add storage to the network. GBC is purchasing three firewalls for its primary campuses and investigating virus and spam solutions. Dorms will be added to the network in the Fall of 2004. A new Industrial Building is being added. GBC is installing smart classrooms. Jeff expressed concern that the one person who generated Focus jobs for all parts of the administration has left for another position. Student Services is using document imaging. Jeff is looking at looking at McAfee and Cisco Security Agent software for intrusion detection. GBC will be setting up a helpdesk.

UNLV: Lori Temple said a major project for UNLV is a move to Cisco networking systems. The network is a high priority right now, and all new money is directed toward that. After a long planning effort, UNLV is putting into place a new advisory committee structure for IT. The core will be the IT Coordinating Committee, which will have seven affiliated groups with broad representation from the campus. UNLV will be piloting fully authenticated wireless connectivity in the fall. The campus wide domain name change continues to be a challenge. They received a grant and are working with Oracle-based portal technology. UNLV joined the EAI consortium and have become a Center of Excellence for WebCT. They are fortunate to have programmers who excel with WebCT, SIS and Oracle. UNLV faculty are currently providing grades via the web. Lori hopes to replace this eventually with a Vista-SIS link. HR Search is a search application being piloted and likely to be purchased by UNLV. Out of several network disruptions has grown a business continuity fax scheme for times when the network it down. Bringing up a branch campus, where the Dental School resides, has been a challenge. Lori has 1000 PCs to replace during the coming summer and asked for advice on disposal. New challenges are an IDF physical room security system, a new help desk call management system, 150 new faculty to accommodate, and 180 faculty to move to modular units. UNLV has recently hired a Security Officer and an IT Communications Officer. UNLV decided to stay with WebCT Campus Edition for academic use for the next year and a half. A new version will be installed over the summer. About 12,000 students use WebCT. Lori will be using Vista for non-academic use. It required a non-FTE based license and will have three instances. Lori hopes UNLV's experience with it will be transferable to the system in the future. Lori asked for other campus's experience with identity management and authentication software. It needs to work with the I2 research environment as well as locally. UNR uses Active Directory/NET ID and CCSN uses Luminous.

NSC: Brian Chongtai reported that NSC uses Novell and is moving to their own web server. They are implementing digital portfolios for students and faculty. They have implemented a VPN. Student lab logins are planned. Antivirus protection is in place. A new building will be constructed in the near future.

Becky Seibert said that another meeting would be scheduled soon to continue with the agenda items and to include a discussion with Vice Chancellor Buster Neel. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.