

White Paper (i.e. summary) on Technology Master Plan draft (version 2.13)

Goals are on p. 3. Strategic Initiatives are displayed on p. 5, showing how they map onto goals. The bulk of the plan is the explanation of the initiatives. Here are some worth discussing:

Campus Infrastructure Improvements (p. 8)

This section deals primarily with wifi and internet connectivity. The state Chancellor's Office pays for internet connectivity through the states CENIC network. Wifi expansion, though funded previously through Measure 'S' bond funds, will henceforth need to be paid by campus technology refresh budgets.

p. 8 "The Measure 'S' bond funds for IT Infrastructure improvements have been fully expended. Those funds paid for campus IT improvements for over a decade. The colleges will now be responsible for funding infrastructure improvements as local needs arise." What does this mean in terms of cost? How far are we along in our wifi refresh through Aruba? Are there foreseeable costs as part of projects currently underway that will need to be budgeted?

Classroom technology improvements (p. 10)

Mentions smarts boards and lecture capture products as possible areas for review and expansion. Those interested in distance education may want to be aware that these possibilities are on District IT's radar.

Distance Learning (p. 12)

Indicates that we will likely need to make a decision about using Canvas in 2015. (!) There was discussion in ITAC of extending the contract with D2L (which is up this June) for one year as a buffer so we can get to know Canvas. In current wording, does that mean we will need to have a lot faculty test out Canvas sooner rather than later so folks can voice their opinion? How do we do that? This is obviously a Moorpark (and possibly Oxnard) perspective, since Ventura College is part of the pilot program.

Information Availability and Reporting (p. 17)

This section deals with a platform called Argos that is deeply integrated with Banner, and looks pretty fancy for getting data on enrollment. This might be an area where faculty might want access for both student success and equity concerns.

IT Staffing (pp. 19-20)

This area needs more eyeballs just so we are clear on what is being proposed: decentralization and expansion of IT, with funding coming from colleges since new

5.5.15 – Academic Senate

positions would be under purview of VP of Business Services. It's not clear how chain of command would work with District IT and the local college part.

Mobile and Online Technology Enhancements (p. 21)

This section touts both success of downloads of the VCCCD mobile app, lists some forthcoming features (ability to add/drop classes) and some 'wish list' features (i.e. calendars). It'd be nice if we could do some studies to find out more about usage other than downloads (since not all downloaded apps get used over time).

Social Media (p. 24)

“In a review of all California Community College websites in July of 2014, 70 percent had links to Facebook, over 50 percent linked to Twitter, and approximately 30 percent linked to YouTube. The VCCCD has yet to use social media as a strategic tool for official, approved communications, and does not have an official presence on the major social media sites.”

The District BOT has yet to adopt a policy for social media and things still remain decentralized (i.e. many departments use social media heavily, but there is no official policy set in place). The document states a need for a policy. Might be worthwhile for more voices from the faculty to nudge this forward (and suggestions for solutions would be great).

Additional Advisory Groups (p. 30)

These groups are listed, but it is not clear how the communication of these groups reaches one another and/or how they interface with ITAC. Concern was raised earlier this year about Course Studio being phased out as discussed in ITAC while someone on the Portal Group was testing out the latest version of Course Studio. How can we promote cross-communication? Is there a central location where minutes of each of these committees are posted?