



CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM EVALUATION TEAM

Minutes

Minutes 16/2005 of the meeting of the Content Management System Evaluation Team held on Monday 7 November 2005, in Seminar Room 2, Library, commencing at 3.30pm.

1. Attendees

Assoc. Prof. Brian Martin, Dr. Jon Cockburn, Dr. Christine Brown, Helen Mandl, Sharon Hughes, Donna Meager, Russ Pennell, Michael Organ.

Apologies

Prof. Sandra Wills, Assoc. Prof. Lee Astheimer, Dr. Ric Caladine, Dr Wendy Russell.

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were read and accepted.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Refer items 3 - 5 below.

3. GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE UPDATE

Helen Mandl reported on discussions with the Graduate School of Medicine Project Team in regards to their selection of a Learning Content Management System. Both Learning Edge and Harvest Road Hive are under consideration. A decision is forthcoming.

This has wider implications for the whole campus, as the research repository Digital Commons software would not deal with teaching and learning objects, whereas the LCMS would offer a solution in that regard.

Team members expressed the view that a single LCMS solution should be adopted across campus, as opposed to faculties pursuing individual solutions. This would better facilitate the various IT and training / support issues connected with the rollout of an LCMS. The Team considered it desirable to inform the DVC (Academic) of this view.

Recommendation: The CMS Evaluation Team recommends that a single Learning Content Management System solution be selected for use across the University.

Action: Team members Sandra Wills and Helen Mandl to bring the recommendation to the attention of the DVC (Academic).

4. LEARNING EDGE DEMONSTRATION 2/11

Team members attended a demonstration of the Learning Content Management System Learning Edge on 2 November, arranged by the Faculty of Medicine Project Team. Those present were impressed with the package, especially in its integration with WebCt / Vista, and ability to customize user and administrator interfaces. The software is costed according to staff numbers. A Faculty of Medicine solution would cost approx. \$8,000, whilst a University-wide solution would cost approx. \$40,000 per annum. A phased

introduction across campus was also discussed. Actual costings, including staff, equipment and support, were not available.

Action: Helen Mandl to liaise with Assoc. Prof. Willis regarding the potential use across campus of Learning Edge, and the adoption of a pilot project or full campus-wide package during 2005-6.

5. FINAL REPORT – PREPARATION & DISCUSSION

The draft final report was tabled and discussed. Team members determined to consider it in more detail and bring those considerations to the next meeting.

There was discussion about making reference to the issue of a possible Federal government supported 'open-source software' solution appearing in the short term and the local IT support implications.

The implication of the proposed recommendations were also discussed.

Action: Team members to consider in detail the draft of the final report for discussion at next meeting.

6. NEXT MEETING

Monday 21 November at 3.30pm in Library Seminar room 2.

Meeting concluded at 5.00 pm.