

Computing Advisory Committee Meeting November 22, 2013

Many projects are progressing with SIU IT. Many of them are being made possible by the newly instated IT fee, which is being assessed at a College / Division level per FTE.

Security and Software

1. Microsoft Forefront is the licensed antivirus/antitrojan/antimalware for SIU. As of June 30, 2014, the McAfee Viruscan software license will expire and will no longer be updated. It should be replaced with Forefront.
2. Secunia licensing (for those who use it) expired on November 30, 2013. Many of these same services that Secunia offers is being covered by the enterprise Microsoft product SCCM for those on the Active Directory.
3. Active Directory: For all workstations where it is possible, they should be added to AD. The old Active Directory (CD) is being retired. A significant finding of the recent external audit is that computers need to have automatic updating turned on. The most complete way to do that is add them to the Active Directory. The Active Directory uses SCCM and will automatically update Microsoft products and "the big seven" including Java, Adobe Reader, etc.
4. Another significant finding was that SIU needs to identify and protect sensitive information. A program called Identity Finder is being pushed out to all workstations on the AD, and will scan for names in conjunction with credit card numbers, social security numbers, driver's license numbers or bank account numbers. Files found may be deleted or encrypted at the user's option. This appears to be a much better program than the previous one, with many fewer false positives.

Email

1. The email transition is well underway. Gmail will be turned off in the spring, after everyone has transitioned to Exchange (staff and faculty) and Office 365 (students).

Infrastructure

1. Voice over IP will soon replace our aging telephone switch.
2. AT&T is installing a cell tower on Morris Library, which will make AT&T more viable on campus and in Carbondale. Many students from Chicago have AT&T wireless.
3. In January the campus will upgrade the Internet connection from 2Mbit to 3Mbit.
4. Outdoor wireless access points will be installed in many places where people congregate outdoors on campus.

Computer Replacement

1. The campus is moving to a five year workstation replacement cycle. Everyone will receive a replacement computer every five years. Cost is covered by the newly instated IT fee. The base package is a Dell 7010 workstation. Upgrades, Macs, and other, more expensive hardware are possible and that cost will be borne by the department. Lab and classroom computers are not covered. Generally, faculty, staff and student workstations in an office setting are covered.
2. The first mass order will come soon. The first departments to receive their replacements will generally be the first ones to get their inventory to IT when it was asked for back in the summer.
3. The computers will have a custom SIU install, including licensed Microsoft Office.
4. Network administrators will coordinate purchases and installs.

Respectfully submitted,

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