Student Technology Fee Committee

Minutes – December 7th 2021
Zoom Remote Meeting

Members in attendance: *CIO Ron Solomon (RS) - Chair, IT Project Manager John Warren (JW) - Co-Chair, Dean of Students Donavan Johnson (DJ), Director of Student Life Tommy Morris (TM), Asst Director of Student Life Jolanda Taylor (JT), SGA President Cassidy Guidry (CG), SGA VP of Policy Tyrus Hampton (TH), SGA Raeleonne Owens (RO), SGA Treasure Jayla West (JaW), SGA Historian Kristal Corney (KC), SGA Melva Green (MG), Dean of Liberal Arts Gail Suberbielle (GS), Department Chair Rhett Poche (RP), Assistant Director of ALC Nina Joshi (NJ)*

Approval of minutes: JW asked for approval of the meeting minutes for October 2021. CG called for a motion to approve the minutes. KC seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

Open Issues Discussed:

- JW explained that IT had no open issues currently and asked the committee if there were any they had that needed to be discussed. No one replied, JW moved on to new business.

New Business:

- JW introduced Dean Gail Suberbielle and Department Chair Rhett Poche to the committee and turned over the meeting to

them to discuss the reintroduction of the recording studio equipment upgrade. GS thanked the committee for letting them speak and reintroduce the vote for the recording studio equipment upgrade and turned the meeting over to RP explained the need for the upgrade since the last upgrade was in 2010 and how it would benefit the students enrolled in the ETEC program. Some of the components that would be upgraded is a mixer board upgrade, iMac that can be expanded and upgraded over time, Avid Pro tools audio application. JW brought up the pricing for each piece of equipment needed for the studio upgrade. RO asked how long would the upgrades last with what is being purchased. RP explained that depending no wear and tear there is longevity built in to this upgrade request.

The vote to approve/disapprove the studio equipment upgrade for a total of $13,582.00 is below:

- Cassidy Guidry – Approve
- Tyrus Hampton – Approve
- Jayla West – Approve
- Raeleonne Owens– Approve
- Kristal Corney – Approve
- Melva Green - Approve

- JW turned the meeting over to Nina Joshi to begin her request for the STC. NJ asked that the online tutoring service SmartThinking hours to be increased 200 additional hours due to the increase in demand for the service. RO asked if there are other pricing structures with SmartThinking that we could use to our benefit. NJ explained that we're in the middle of the current pricing structure in terms of hours used and she does not currently see us going over that amount to get receive a more reduced price per hour. KC asked if SmartThinking is free because you purchased the Pearson book. NJ explained that because you're an active BRCC student you get the access to SmartThinking through Canvas.

The vote to approve/disapprove the increase for 200 additional hours for SmartThinking that would last until the end of Summer 2022 to be purchased with Student Technology funds for a total of $5,400.00 is below:

- Cassidy Guidry – Approve
- Tyrus Hampton – Approve
- Jayla West – Approve
- Raeleonne Owens– Approve
- Kristal Corney – Approve
- Melva Green – Approve

- JW brought up that he located a vendor that could possibly accommodate the request for secure student charging bays around campus. JW shared his screen and began discussing one vendor, LocknCharge, that had met the STC requirements and IT requirements. JW explained that there were two models, a large and small tower, they had a web based management tool and the towers were easily configurable and customizable. JW explained that there are two settings for the towers. The first is for public charging where someone would walk up, select a bay from the touchpad, put in a code for the bay, open the bay, plugin your device and close the bay for it to charge. The second setting is managed charging that would be controlled and utilized for students being able to check out Chromebooks as needed. RS brought up that these would be placed in areas of high traffic by students, New IT Help Desk, Library, Student Center, etc. RS asked if daisy chaining was possible, JW explained that all of them could be controlled through one interface. RO asked about charging times and if the lockers could be larger for gaming devices and possibly purses. JW explained that the charging times would be the same as at home when plugged up and device dependent and that JW would find out about making some of the bays larger to accommodate larger items. CG asked how many we'd initially purchase and where they'd go around campus. JW explained that will initiatives like these we typically purchase 2 or 3 to place around various locations at Mid-City and see if the technology is used, get feedback from everyone and

expand from there. RS asked what is brought into the testing area after CG expressed that she could see the need for one there. CG said that typically, she brings in her keys and phone that have to be secured in the testing area and a charging locker makes sense there. KC liked the idea of having one in the student center area and that it would be utilized. RS said he'd like for the SGA to bring this up in their meetings to get feedback from a larger pool of students. KC suggested a survey and everyone agreed it was a good idea. MG suggested that the WiFi be looked at first before looking into charging lockers. She didn't see students leaving their devices in a charging locker in the Student Center and would go to their cars for charging. JW suggested going back to KC's idea about surveying the student body. In the meantime, IT would get quotes and arrange for a demo unit if possible.

- RO asked if STC funds could be used for Xbox or PlayStation gaming console purchases for the student game room. RS explained that it must meet at least one of the objectives under the STC Funds Request form. DJ explained that would need to come from SGA funds and not STC funds.

- JW brought up the WiFi issue that MG mentioned and if anyone else was experiencing that and everyone said they were. RS explained that we had just recently begun upgrading all of the network gear including the WiFi and some of the sporadic signals and downtime was related to gear being swapped out and that we were working towards finalizing the upgrade soon. RS also asked the STC to please let help desk know when they have any IT issues so we can address them as quickly as possible. KC brought up that there is difficulty with getting to the URL due to length of it, RS and JW said they were unaware and would address that with a possible shortening of the URL and investigate further.

Next Meeting: 2nd week of February

JW called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. CG motioned to adjourn and TH seconded.

MEETING OPENED: 3:05 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:1 p.m.

RECORDER: John Warren