

LMIS Meeting Minutes
25 March 2016

In Attendance: Martin Jackson, Lauren Nicandri, Zaixin Hong, Wade Hands, Patrick O'Neil, Jane Carlin, James Bernhard (Chair), Melanie Shaffer, Linda Williams (scribe for the day)

3:31 call to order

Minutes: Carlin's corrections were agreed upon and minutes from the previous meeting approved. Williams was added to the list of attendees

Bernhard noted that it has been a strange semester for this committee – little on the Technology side of duties as Tech services are in flux.

Update on the CIO search. The search committee is preparing to invite two or three finalists to campus. Not secret like the presidential search so input from the committee members and faculty will be helpful.

Friday 8 April, Monday 11 and Wednesday 13 April are days for visits.

Bernhard asked that we develop questions for the candidates.

A committee member asked about previous interview questions.

In the initial interviews, candidates were asked:

To describe examples of collaboration between IT and faculty

And why the person was interested in joining as CIO

Various committee members offered the following questions:

Why are you applying to this job?

How would you be described by previous colleagues?

Top 3 characteristics of CIO and why?

What strategic plan you have developed for IT at your institution?

When have you had to say no to a tech path and why?

How do you keep abreast of current pedagogy? How do you ensure currency in staff?

Section most relevant to us:

How have you connected with staff, faculty and students

How do you manage the tech team: what style of manager are you?

How do you recruit and hire staff?

Campus community – how do you foster a positive relationship?

It was suggested that the candidate express a vision for the tech department.

And also to visit actual spaces on campus.

A general discussion regarding the CIO candidate campus visits ensued:

LN: An important question is how the CIO will balance the needs of administrative vs academic technology. They are very different needs.

PO: We don't know if the candidates are coming from a research institution or a small liberal arts college.

ZH: What strengths and challenges would your background bring?

PO: The candidate needs to know that she/he is arriving in the middle of transition – what might change?

LN: We could ask “how do you deal with change?”

MJ: What are the challenges or opportunities arriving at the same time as a new president?

WH: How do you think in terms of how something is possible vs. why it is not?

JC: To think about how money is spent, the candidate should frame a way of looking at resources and hardware or software.

LN: Predict and prevent vs. react and repair.

PO: Regarding faculty needs: Often idiosyncratic and quirky. Then needs, not the faculty. How do you manage faculty with differing levels of familiarity with programs and their attempts to innovate or those resistant to change.

LN: Innovation – balance needs of those who want to push the envelope vs. demanding needs.

The question was posed:

What skills are the new generation of students bringing?

JB: ACADEMIC computing will be one of the biggest challenges

LN: Looking forward we need to think about syncing with cloud storage. What are ideas about software options and saving storage options?

PO: We need to know what/how K-8 students are operating in the cloud. Android versus cloud based. These are our students 5-6 years from now. Current students are not familiar with the cloud.

What is the role of the CIO in educating students about this?

MS: very accurate that students are behind. Students should know who the CIO is.

WH: There is always something new coming down the road. Where is the frontier and how do we get faculty and student there? Not specific to particular questions.

JC: Space. How does candidate see academic computing spaces? Maker spaces? One candidate came with experience in maker space. Evolving spaces?

Spirited discussion about 3-d dental straighteners ensued.

How will the new CIO address needs of faculty research vs faculty teaching?

How will the new CIO address data curation plan and places to store data?

JB: We should ask what is one concrete thing that they would like to bring to tech computing in near future? That will give an idea of expertise and passion.

JC: The CIO should know about issues that have affected faculty most dramatically. Peoplesoft.
Comments about ERP (EMP?)

JB: Continue to ponder questions and we can compile a list.
Adjourned at 4:28