INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT FORUM (ITMF)

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2005

1:30-3:00 P.M.

GA. CENTER, ROOM C

Present: Sue Achtemeier, Chris Adcock, Matt Blankenship, Joellen Childers, Mike Dennis, Bert DeSimone, Debbie Ellerson, Alan Ferrenberg, Brad Hunt, Judy James, Paul Keck, David Matthews-Morgan, Tammy McGarity, Jerry NeSmith, Teresa Payne, Barry Robinson, Cletus Stripling, Greg Topp, Carol Watson and Barbara White.

Absent: John Anderson, Greg Ashley, Sharon Burch, Mike Campbell, Mark Cherry, Bill Clayton, Martha Dennis, Corey Doster, Mark Ellenberg, Sarah Fraker, Stan Gatewood, Sandi Glass, Don Hamilton, David Knox, Will Laney, Eric McRae, Christine Miller, Dan Murphy, Jeff Pentz, Cheryl Prichard, Jeff Teasley, Sharon Thelen, Dale Wetzelberger, Chris Wilkins and Chris Workman.

Approval of Minutes -- The group approved the minutes for the May 2005 ITMF meeting.

CENTBAC Vendor Meeting Update -- Jerry NeSmith gave an update on his meeting with the vendors who provide the hardware/software for CENTBAC initiatives (hosted in the Research Computing Center) for Terry College and the College of Agriculture. Jerry mentioned that, while turnout was light, the meeting was helpful and informative. The highlight of the meeting was a presentation of Syncsort software architecture that blends in very nicely to a Central Backup initiatives because it deals with snapshots, eliminating the need for appliance filers in every department. Jerry also noted that he will be happy to have the vendors return for another presentation and that they can be contacted directly.

David Matthews-Morgan questioned next steps in the CENTBAC initiative. The following represents points of discussion in an attempt to answer David’s question:

- Jerry mentioned he believes a three-way MOU needs to be developed between the College of Agriculture, EITS and the Office of the Vice President for Research. Matt opined that the process as it stands now should be used as an example for potential future CENTBAC initiatives and wondered if collaboration on a standard set of vendors should be considered.

- Chris Adcock, the chair of the CENTBAC committee, noted that the CENTBAC committee has met its obligations with regard to its original charge. At this point it may make sense for the ITMF to recharge this committee or create a new one to address how we might move forward with centralized backup within the context of compact planning, etc.
• Brad asked Dr. White how she would prefer to operationalize a central CENTBAC service. Dr. White said the focus needs to be on formalizing the process by establishing an MOU between the parties involved. She does believe that it may be a part of the Client Services Compact Plan. Her main concern is the development of the MOU to ensure all parties have a clear understanding of their parts and responsibilities.

• Matt would like the MOU to address infrastructure needs in terms of who pays for the hardware for a centralized backup system (i.e., do departments pay for their portion independently or is there a flat service charge?)

In an effort to further explore some of these issues, Brad motioned that ITMF should form a Compact Planning (single subject) meeting to discuss CENTBAC next steps, inviting EITS and non-ITMF members. Dr. White asked that the group invite Greg Ashley. Matt plans to have more on the potential Compact Planning meeting before the next ITMF meeting on July 7.

President’s Retreat Update – Dr. White gave an update on the May 19 Senior Administrator’s retreat at Brasstown Valley Resort. She mentioned that the retreat included all UGA Deans, VPs and Senior Administration with additional attendees invited for special circumstances. UGA demographer Doug Bachtel put together some demographic information (Attachment I) on the State of Georgia and the University. She mentioned that the main topics covered at the retreat included:

• The Capital Campaign; the university is apparently nearing the half-way point in reaching the fundraising goal.
• The Deans ways in which they were approaching advancement and fundraising.
• Issues surrounding the need, as state funding recedes, to seek private funds. Discussion centered on honing these fundraising skills, and knowing the kinds of funding needed, how to go after the funding, and where the funding resides.
• Further discussion of fundraising centered on understanding the relationships with private donors, knowing how to use UGA resources for fundraising, and knowing when to go through the foundation or through a corporation as compared to dealing with private donors.

Dr. White mentioned that she will put together a plan this summer dealing with some of these issues and will then revisit with ITMF to begin the process of seeking IT funds collectively across campus.

She next gave out a list of goals for IT on campus in both 2005 and projected goals for 2006 (Attachment II). She mentioned that the Provost’s office has issued a deadline of November 1st, 2005 for a planning program, which coincides with the Compact Planning deadlines.

She next mentioned her plan to allow SunGard Collegis (a vendor-neutral Information Technology consultant) to come in and conduct a business process analysis of how UGA
deals with their Administrative Data Management, their Social Security number conversion to unique ID numbers, and their ID Management in general. She offered to revisit with ITMF after they complete their work over the summer to let the group know what their assessment and suggestions are. She also mentioned that Alan Ferrenberg is spearheading a business model for Information Technology on campus through the EITS/CIO’s Business Office.

Other topics mentioned were:

- The Next Generation network and general funding of IT on campus.
- The budget presentation that she presented to the Central Administration will be placed on the Web in the near future.
- How UGA relates to Atlanta and how does IT figure into those connections.
- The increasing cost of power, etc.

**There was a lengthy discussion of the new online accounting system and some concerns surrounding the implementation of the system. Brad Hunt suggested the group stay focused on enterprise level issues and accept that there will be interim solutions.**

Committee Updates – Matt mentioned that a meeting to discuss the next steps in the IT Jobs/Reclassification will be held June 9th. Matt will report the group’s discussion back to the ITMF at a later meeting. His intention is to address some of the policies issues concerning the Reclassification of IT jobs.

Brad mentioned that the SECCOMM is currently looking at assessing security risks on campus and trying to put them on paper as a reference tool. He hopes that the committee will have a draft out by mid-June. Conclusions they have drawn thus far include:

- The absolute importance of awareness training.
- One of the largest security risks is the inadvertent exposure by end users of sensitive data.
- A comprehensive list of policies has been developed. Most of them have not been vetted nor officially approved.

Unfinished Business -- Bert and Matt decided that there is a need to further investigate the issues surrounding the guidelines and policies of subscription/hosted services.

It was noted that several units on campus host these types of services and that the problem of data securing is a pertinent one. Matt has discussed the issue with Legal Affairs and expects to hear back from them soon. Bert suggested surveying UGANet to get opinions on the topic.

Other Business
• Bert gave out a list of Microsoft Onsite Security training dates (Attachment III).
• The Coverdell building is being developed.
• Appletalk is no longer in service on campus.

With no other business to discuss, the group adjourned at 2:45 p.m.