

01 May 2003: CMSAG Summary

In attendance: Joe Burley, Erin Easterling, Randy Graff, Doug Johnson, Kris Kirmse, Terry Morrow, Chris Sessums, Marvel Townsend, Mike Wright.

I. Opening Comments and Discussion:

To give the committee adequate time to explore Vista 2.0, the 8 May meetings has been cancelled. The CMSAG will meet next on 15 May.

Response to last week's committee question: As requested by the committee, Doug asked Professor Zazueta if the CMSAG could recommend continuing to support both WebCT and Blackboard. Zazueta's response was that this is not the mandate of the committee, which is to recommend a single CMS product to be centrally supported at UF. He reminded the committee that regardless of its recommendation for campus-wide support, campus units are still free to support other CMSs of their own choosing. When asked about the possibility of upgrading to Blackboard 6 Enterprise Edition and continuing to support WebCT CE for the features and functions it offers, his response was the same: the committee is tasked to recommend a single CMS.

<quote from Fedro Zazueta's charge to the CMSAG, 28 August 2002>

The rapid adoption of CMS software by UF faculty, the increasing resources required for support and the recent increase in licensing costs of software require that UF's direction in the use of CMS be reassessed to ensure that:

- A robust and reliable CMS system is available for teaching and learning.
- Quality support services are provided to faculty and students.
- Resources are directed in an effective and efficient manner.

The charge of the committee is to make recommendations regarding:

1. The selection of a single CMS vendor.
2. The necessary central support structure and resources required to maintain a reliable system, including faculty and student support.
3. A plan and necessary resources required to assist faculty currently using a CMS other than that selected, to move their course to the centrally supported CMS system.

I'm also requesting that the committee ensure strategic alignment with the University's planning efforts.

<end quote>

II. WebCT Vista demo

The committee participated in a demo of WebCT Vista 2. This is a pre-release copy of Vista 2, which is still on track for its official release at the end of May 2003. We have been given until 14 May to work with the system; so we are scheduled to discuss our findings and their impact on our decision-making on 15 May.

III. Report Writing

Work Group Leaders:

Yet another reminder that each work group leader should be writing a brief report to present the information and recommendations developed under his or her auspices.

Recommendation and Planning Draft:

Doug will soon circulate the next edited draft of a final report document. Please devote adequate time to read and offer suggestions on how to continue developing the final document.

IV. Next Meetings [tentative topics]:

Thursday, 15 May 2003. 9:30 AM, Turlington 1012 **[Vista 2.0; TCO issues]**

Thursday, 22 May 2003. 9:30 AM, Turlington 1012 **[CMS Training]**

Thursday, 29 May 2003. 9:30 AM, Turlington 1012 **[Strategic considerations]**