

Technology Access Fee (TAF) Committee Meeting
Friday, December 4, 2009
10:00 PM
GN213

Attendees: Mandy Bentz, Jerry Bryan (Chair), Olivia Daniel (Student Rep.), Dave Gilbert, Kim Thomas

Absent: Rick Barber

Committee members introduced themselves. A draft of the proposed TAF Plan for 2010-2011 was distributed, along with TAF Guidelines, and Lab Replacement Plans.

Jerry discussed the history of TAF and the requirement that funds be dedicated to technology purchased for the direct benefit of students. Faculty and students must be represented on a TAF Committee at each TBR school.

The current TAF fee for full-time students is \$125 per year, or \$113 Fall Semester and \$112 Spring Semester. This fee is pro-rated for part-time students based on the number of hours taken. Pellissippi State refreshes technology in student labs on a two- to three-year cycle using these funds. Special requests from faculty and students are also considered. For the past five years, the TBR schools allocated twenty-five percent of TAF funds to support the Banner Project. This special allocation is now over.

Mandy reported that TBR is discussing changes to reporting, but TAF spending guidelines most likely will not be affected. Every year, twenty-five percent of schools will have their TAF plans reviewed in detail by TBR.

The committee discussed the new Blount County Campus and Nursing program, recognizing there will be a need to purchase equipment, possibly from TAF funds. Stimulus money may be used for these items as well.

Dave discussed Media Technology's request that software for their courses be purchased as assurance plans with a precise yearly fee of \$70K. This would eliminate the problem and large expense of re-purchasing software every two years at various times during the budget cycle. The assurance plans would allow for upgrades at no additional cost instead of purchasing individual copies of software. A key server would be required to support the assurance plans. Other advantages would be tracking to learn the exact number of users and the ability to "bump" those on computers with lower priority, ensuring those in class would always have access first. Jerry will set up meeting with Network and Technical Services and key Media Technology personnel to discuss.

A request for 25 additional copies of Lynda.com was approved for addition to the plan. AutoDesk was also discussed as an item that is typically purchased with TAF funds.

Jerry will check with Educational Technology Services to ensure that the high-tech projectors in Bagwell Building have been added to the refresh cycle.

Olivia inquired about fundraisers to assist with items that TAF does not cover, the amount students pay in TAF fees, and the disposition of the additional twenty-five percent saved by no longer diverting funds to Banner. It was noted that excess funds may be rolled-over to the next year.

Adjourned: 11:10 AM

Recorded by Lori Warneke