I. Current Technologies

A. The Blackboard upgrade was a success and one day ahead of schedule. There are still a few kinks that are being worked out. Transitioning over summer has provided extra time to perfect the system.

The new tools available and the new layout that Blackboard uses will require current users some “getting used to.” Such new features include the ability to grade individual discussion threads and improvements to the gradebook and testing feature.

Learning Technologies and Assessment and Information Technology Services have scheduled a series of training sessions for the summer; the schedule is online on the ITS and LTA websites. Registration is via email.

The group would like to consider whether the financial commitment to Blackboard is advisable. The school is keeping its eyes open for other service providers, including some open source programs. The committee can easily get access to Sakai and Carol will check with other AJCU schools that are moving to different systems to see if we can get some guest accounts for purposes of investigation.

Ron recalls using Moodle, which had some nice advantageous and resources, however did require all current data to be converted and transitioned.

B. Podcasting: ATC needs to explore the best practices of podcasting in order to establish some useful guidelines.

Ron notes that the School of Medicine used streaming and podcasting to distribute lectures and media rich content, such as procedural videos. Through focus groups at the School of Medicine, it was discovered that students wanted both online material, and traditional classroom material.

Anne interjects that at the College of Art and Sciences, perhaps because of the undergraduate level, students will use online content to replace classroom time. Several faculty report that even placing PowerPoints online reduces class attendance.

Ron notes that technology can be used to supplement classroom lectures, such as audience response systems (clickers) and pre-lecture electronic exams. At the School of Medicine, students needed to participate in these services in order to receive credit for the lecture. Ron notes that the systems were a hassle to set up, however, and require more of the professor’s efforts than those of the students.
II. **Technology Topic Priorities**: we need to look at the various issues presented to the committee and begin prioritizing the campus technology needs. The committee agreed on the following topics as a start:

a. **Learning spaces, including video conferencing**

b. Will research and decisions recommended by the committee be supported by the technology decision makers.

c. Blackboard components: BackPack, Community Portal, Content System AND/OR new CMS

d. Classroom Personal Response Systems: clickers

e. Handling copyright charges

f. **Electronic course evaluations**

g. *Digital media issues (podcasting; media in Blackboard)*

h. **Hardware and software recommendations for incoming students**

i. Campus communication: RSS feeds

j. **Emergency communication**

k. *Role of library in learning; the changing view of library “space”; broader support of eJournals*

l. *Pedagogical concerns involving the incorporation of technology into the current culture of teaching and learning at Loyola.

** Q1-Q2 primary priorities

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III. **Reporting to ITS Executive Steering Committee**: the ITESC would like us to fill out a PowerPoint template outlining our work to date. Carol has begun to add content to the presentation and will send a draft of the information to the committee before sending it on to the ITESC.

IV. **Summer meetings**: Carol will send some suggested times and dates for summer meetings. We agreed to conduct part of each meeting in a computer lab so we can begin looking into new technologies.

V. **Importance of Feedback**: The group agrees that it is important to understand how constituents actually want technology to be used; we are all reminded to go back to our units and continue asking what people want and how they would like to use the various technologies. The attitudes about podcasting are a particular interest to the group.

VI. **Wiki**: Carol will continue to add materials to the wiki and encourages all committee members to participate. Ron suggested that we build pages in the wiki for discussion of the various subtopics listed above rather than attempt to have subcommittees. We will try to get this type of discussion going and begin gathering information. We decided it would be a good idea to have one person who helps direct each discussion area. If you would like to be the lead for a particular area, please indicate that on the wiki page or let Carol know.

wiki login: [http://academictechnology.pbwiki.com](http://academictechnology.pbwiki.com)/

password atcluc

Dan Kleinman, recorder