FerrisConnect Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2010

In attendance: Meegan Lillis, Mary Holmes, Scott Randle, Randy Vance, John Schmidt, Marcy Parry, Kim Hancock, Bea Griffith-Cooper, Amy Buse, Cheryl Clutchy, Emily Mitchell, Eunice Merwin-Beck, John Urbanick, Fritz Erickson, Gloria Lukusa-Barnett

1. Contracts – John Urbanick
   a. Blackboard contract
      i. Received a $10,000 deduction this year
      ii. Last year of a 3 year contract
      iii. There is no automatic renewal
      iv. Cost per student: Just the license fee is roughly $11.50 per student given 14,000 students
   b. Tegrity contract
      i. 3 year contract; 5.5% increase each year
      ii. There is no automatic renewal
      iii. 5000 FTE is in our current contract
      iv. Cost per student: at 1,000 students that would be $45.00 per student
   c. FerrisConnect Budget
      i. Annual: $270K
      ii. It has stayed at this figure for three years
      iii. This budget is in Academic Affairs, under Robbie Teahen
   d. Renegotiation
      i. We will need to renegotiate contracts beginning the first of the year

2. Why did we want to change?
   a. There is no support after 2013, we have been aware of this for about 6 months to a year.
   b. During the early spring we were having stability issues and issues troubleshooting with Blackboard; however, at this point in time, the product seems fairly stable.
   c. We were not sure if there was a financial reason concerning the future of the FerrisConnect budget.
   d. Committee wanted to know if there was a better product.
      i. Subcommittee was formed and researched four course management systems during the spring and summer of 2010.
      ii. Notably, we found during this process that members came back thinking the product they were researching was the best.

3. Current concerns
   a. Will there be money for training?
   b. Faculty buy-in

4. What is the cost differential?
   a. Determine cost of each product including training.
5. Proposed in last meeting having just a pilot of Blackboard Learn 9 to potentially allow us to shorten our timeline.

6. What is our next step?
   a. Price out Blackboard 9 for internal hosting and external hosting.
   b. How can we get 24/7 support?