

TechNet Australia Steering Committee

Minutes of meeting #2

Electronic meeting initiated 3 August 2004

Contributors:

Veronika Tatarinoff, Eileen Emmerson, Gregory Moor, John Urquhart, Lyn Spencer, Peter Kay, Lynn Ferris, Miles Ryan, Liz Kean, Kate Noble

Confirmation of minutes of the inaugural TechNet Australia Steering Committee (TNASC or committee):

- Minutes submitted by VT
- No electronic comments were received by the minute-taker regarding whether the committee members accepted these minutes as a true record.

Meeting Structure

- GM suggested distributing the minutes of each meeting to those who were interested in TNA but did not want to be on the committee (the Backup Group) and for them to be able to make comments/ask questions.
- GM suggested that this Backup Group be the beginning of TNA representatives with the aim of having one in every Australian university
- **JU** to send GM the list of staff who have offered to help with electronic meetings.
- **JU** has had a Quickplace environment demonstration and thinks it will be useful for TNA administration. GM also to have a demonstration.

Web

- GM wants to be sure that past conference web pages are on the TNA website to make sure that these resources are kept. UTS has copies of 2000 and 2002 conference web pages but not 2003 or 2004. LS confirmed that 2004 website is being maintained.
- **JU** suggested Stephen Boyd at Gold Coast campus (s.boyd@griffith.edu.au) as the Quickplace environment contact (electronic meetings)
- **PK** said there was a possible problem with the name "TechNet" as Microsoft already using it. He said that legal advice suggests that this might not be a problem while we are a small body but might be a problem if we become more visible as a national body.
- **PK** to keep us informed on this. Can **EE** or **LF** comment?
- **LF** has suggested that Donald Davidson contact her if he needs more information on the website.
- TNA website is www.technetaustralia.org .

Conference 2005/2006

- EE has contacted Myles Ryan (CSU) re: TT05. A conference later in the year would be more probable because mid-year is when tech staff have highest work commitments. EE has guaranteed assistance.
- MR said that CSU was able to host the 2005 conference. He'd had positive responses from both the VC and a DVC. The conference would not be until late in the year, around November 30 to December 2, due to the fact that technical staff have fewer work commitments later in the year, plus the weather is better. He is getting together a small organising committee and will shortly be determining the dates and which campus. MR has welcomed the offers of assistance from PK, EE & GM and will keep the committee posted
- JU has offered assistance to MR as well.
- JU suggested that Griffith uni hold the following conference in mid 2007 (18 months on). Amongst other things, the weather is good in Brisbane that time of year. EE supported this suggestion.
- EE has suggested running the conference every two years after this, if it is robust enough, and that by then many of the smaller unis might also have their TechNet groups running.

Treasurer - forming an association ?

- No comments made

Vice Chancellors - AVCC and state VCC

- No comments made

Promotions - existing Technets and forming new Technets

- LF said that Babs Fairchild from the University of Melbourne was interested in contacting any previous TechTrain delegates from the U of M, as she is a keen TechNetter.
- LF suggested consolidating all previous conference delegate lists for TNA contacts (keeping in mind confidentiality).
- GM has provided attendee lists from TechTrains 1997, 2001, 2002 and 2003
- LS has provided the attendee list from TechTrain 2004

Records - past TechTrain conferences, papers, etc

- PK has sent the minute-taker the list of delegates who responded to the TT04 feedback sheets regarding calling the TechNet conference "TechTrain" or calling it the TechNet Australia conference.
- **PK** could you please advise the committee of the outcome of this question? Thank you.

Terms of Reference - drafting

- Regarding the draft: a discrepancy exists between the draft minutes of the inaugural meeting and the Agenda for meeting #2 (which was based on information in the draft inaugural

minutes) in that the first volunteer (as mentioned at the bottom of the agenda for meeting 2) for drafting the terms of reference is listed in the minutes as Veronika Tatarinoff but in the agenda as John Urquhart.

- KN requested everyone to pass on what it is that they want TNA to do, what role it is to play, so that the TNA mission and vision statements can be drafted, and the Terms of Reference can be drafted. Some definitions were provided

- Suggestions so far:

- § TNA to support the professional development of the individual, and quality enhancement at the corporate level (GM).

- § TNA to be the National body for technical personnel in tertiary education and research (VT, KN).

- § A body to help the sharing of resources and technical expertise (VT, KN).

- § TNA To support technical personnel and to recognise technical expertise and excellence (VT, KN).

- § A body to support the development of individual TechNet committees and assist in the organising of the national conference (VT, KN).

- § To provide some financial support for TechNets of smaller units (EE).

- § **ALL** to provide some suggestions please

Minutes

- Please note that these minutes were compiled from the emails received by the minute-taker over the period 3 August and 18 August, 2004. The summary was prepared by Kate Noble.