

IT Gov Minutes

May 8, 2025

Via Zoom

Attendees: Kirk Brown, Noah Daniels, Brenton DeBoef, Gabriele Fariello, Melissa Frost, Brandon Fuller, Steven D'Hondt, Michael Greenfield, Amanda Izenstark (absent), Shaun Kavanagh, Michael Khalfayan, Ian Lester (absent), Dean Libutti (absent), Matt McDonald (absent), Sanjay Kumar Mupparapu, Linsley Nottage, John Stringer

Guest: Scotia Roopnarine

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. April 2025.
 - b. Noah moved to approve minutes; John seconded.
 - c. All present voted to approve.

2. URI Campus Card Update (Shaun Kavanagh)
 - a. Go live May 12-13, 2025
 - b. New student campus card (SEOS chip, Barcode & Magstripe)
 - c. Virtual ID via the mobile app
 - d. Tap to pay at dining locations
 - e. Tap to enter at HRL Locations (Fall 2025)
 - f. Photo upload via mobile app & website
 - g. Ram account can be used at 350,000 locations nationwide
 - h. Questions:
 - i. Gabriele: Can we easily connect with the Rhody Connect app? Many things will but not everything due to cost. Virtual ID will not.
 - ii. Noah: What student data is presented over NFC in this case? Unique student ID, nothing that will tie it back to the student otherwise.
 - iii. Noah: what about upperclassmen? Due to cost, if students are not living on campus now, they are not included, again, cost related.

3. CIO Update
 - a. Introduction of Scotia Roopnarine as new associate CIO for Enterprise & Infrastructure who joined ITS this week.
 - b. SSO for eCampus on May 19, 2025 is on target, though we do expect bumps in the road even with all the communication we have shared – anticipating bookmarks as the biggest hurdle and links that colleges implemented.
 - i. Noah: is it possible to provide the updated log in URL ahead of the transition? Yes.
 - c. RamTech changes are forthcoming with a new bookstore vendor taking over and unfortunately IT was not included in the conversations which will impact how departments, faculty, and staff buy computer hardware. GF will meet with Ellen Reynolds to talk this through for a fuller understanding.
 - i. Steve: does the vendor have contracts with other universities? Yes, but GF does not know anything more about them.

- ii. Scotia: Has a security assessment been done with the vendor? Yes, and it came back clean.
- iii. Lindsey: From a compliance perspective, there are compliance regulations for the book list and if there is an issue, please reach out to her.

4. Google Workspace

- a. We have been exploring ways to save money, and this includes moving from both Google and Microsoft to only Microsoft. Google costs at least \$420,000 annually. If we move to Microsoft exclusively, there will be more associated costs. Therefore, we are unsure that there will be any true cost savings, so we will continue to explore this issue. We are talking with the State of RI about partnering to share costs.
- b. We recognize how tied coursework and research sharing is tied to Google.
- c. GF asked who else we should be talking about this (university partners)?
 - i. Steve: Talk to the Faculty Senate. The research advisory committee is concerned with the amount of information stored in Google and migrating it over. Most collaboration comes through Google because of ease.
 - ii. Noah: echoes collaboration through Google and concerns about it.
 - iii. Sanjay: Research faculty collaborating with other institutions is done through Google workspace. When other institutions are not in Google, it prevents them from sharing and holds them back from granting opportunities.
 - iv. Michael G: will contact faculty in Engineering to query their thoughts and experiences. With students, they use Google to collaborate and to simply do all their work. Does O365 allow for real-time collaboration? Yes, but the experience is not as fluid.
 - 1. What is the timeline for a decision? GF: It is ongoing as we get cost estimates and have negotiations with Microsoft on cost and work to move over fully.
 - v. John: regarding student and Google, we do not see Google as an in-demand skill with employers – it is all Microsoft products.
 - 1. GF: feedback we have gotten from universities who made the change to Microsoft said the students were easiest to move over, and that it was faculty and staff who were most resistant.

5. Workday Phase 0

- a. Just started it, so there is not a lot to report.
- b. We are strategizing using Launch methodology (you get what you get – no customizations or configurations) which means a long phase 0.
- c. We are in the information gathering phase working through the minutia of it.
- d. GF will provide summaries to IT Gov as things move along.
- e. We anticipate 2-3 years to go live.

6. Project Status Updates

- a. No questions at this time.
7. Open Forum
- a. Steve: At least one government database has been taken offline; do we have a solution for this? GF: We are working on this with our partners to find a solution.
 - b. Please reach out to Gabriele and Melissa with any items you wish to cover on the next agenda.
 - c. Upcoming Meeting
 - i. Next meeting is Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 11:00 AM via Zoom.