

Tech Advisory Minutes - 4/20/05

Present: Laurie Louis, Lorraine Smi, Michael Sweeney, John Love, Rawdon Cheng, Joe Makowiec, Mike Whitney, Joe Thornton, Marcia Middleton.

Item: Broadcast messaging.

- Report on newer version of Jabber from Mike Sweeney. It does not support unique user Ids from different locations. After some discussion, it was determined that Jabber will not serve our purposes, although libraries may want to use it individually for internal communication.
- John Love demonstrated some of his beta Horizon Status pages, as a possible alternative to broadcast messaging.
www.uhls.org/bethlehem/test/v4/horizon.asp
www.uhls.org/bethlehem/test/update.asp
There was discussion about placing a shortcut to this page in the Startup folder on Circulation Desk PCs as a monitoring tool. Anyone at any library may enter status of their Horizon connection and view basic status across the system. Upper Hudson will be responsible for monitoring this during the hours they are open, as well as clearing out the comments field periodically.
- It was agreed that John would edit the www.uhls.org/bethlehem/test/update.asp page. Changes will include adding frames, a datestamp for comments field, only showing slow or down status libraries, and setting the comments field so users can only edit their own text. He will distribute the link information to all Tech advisory members for feedback. Upper Hudson will then publicize this information and libraries can begin to use the status page.

Item: Recommendations to ASC about specific security programs for library use.

- Discussion of Deepfreeze v. Cornerstone for securing public PCs. It was agreed that more information was required before we could make a recommendation. At the next meeting, we will examine these 2 products in depth.
- **As a group, it was decided to recommend the use of Public Web Browser and Fortres at this time.**

Item: Email filtering

- Rawdon said that if a user is expecting some mail and has not received it, it may have gone to the root folder on the mail server. Contact Jonathan about dropped or lost messages.

Item: Email programs

- Discussion of spam in general and the Thunderbird program in particular. Bethlehem has begun migrating to this system and it is very effective in blocking spam.

Next meeting: Wednesday, 5/18/05 UHLS