UAF Staff Council
Technology Advisory Board (TAB) Update
5/8/14

The UAF Technology Advisory Board (TAB) met on April 14th, 2014 to discuss the submitted proposals for Spring semester 2014, and to make recommendations to the Chancellor on which proposals to fund with the technology fee generated funds. This usually amounts to approx. 200k-250k each semester.

Each proposal submitted for TAB consideration will also be reviewed and ranked by the dean or director of the department submitting the proposal. In addition, the Provost will also provide feedback on each proposal.
The board meets once a semester, although each board member spends time reviewing each proposal several weeks ahead of the meeting. Each member does an initial ranking of proposals, and can make comments. This is then consolidated in a spreadsheet, which serves as the basis for discussion in the meeting.

For the Spring 2014 semester, 29 TAB proposals were submitted. Each proposal must focus on technology of direct benefit to students either in the classroom or related educational/learning activities. Proposals have covered a wide variety of projects from enhancing software available to students in the classroom to new technology that assists students with analysis of lab problems to case-hardened computers linked with GPS systems for geology field work.
The board often recommends that departments work with the Office of Information Technology to work on the financial details of the proposals. Since the TAB fee is collected from students, one of the other criteria is how many students are impacted by the proposals.

Out of the 29 proposals, the board determined that 15 of them were eligible for TAB funding. While there are guidelines for applying for TAB funding, the board determined that not all proposals met those requirements.
Out of the 15 proposals, 11 were fully funded, and 4 were partially funded. All of the partially funded proposals, were funded at least 50%, with recommendations of other sources to obtain the additional funding. In total, $177,300 was awarded to 10 different departments.

The departments that are awarded the proposals for Spring 2014, will be asked to provide a report on how the funding was spent, and well it has met its intended purpose, and how student were impacted by the awarded proposal funding.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the UAF Technology Advisory Board.

Chris Beks
Staff Council Representative
TAB Committee