E-Mail Future Opportunities at UCI

Summary: Allen Schiano presented future opportunities for e-mail at UCI to the Faculty Advisory Group on November 29, 2004.

Goal: OIT recognizes the importance of e-mail in conducting University business and is considering ways in which future e-mail services (and e-mail linked services) could more effectively and extensively meet campus goals.

Among many possibilities are:

- E-mail services for prospective applicants and alumni, i.e., extending UCI-based services from ‘applicants to endowments’
- Expansion of ‘Tiering’ in existing e-mail services:
  - Larger disk allocation for faculty and/or staff
  - Access to the UNIX shell for complex e-mail manipulations, e.g., proclmail use
- Prioritized/segregated ‘channels’ for official University business
  - Separate mailboxes for students to receive official e-mail
  - ‘secure’ e-mail whose sender can be verified before ‘opening’ e-mail
- More extensive use of predefined folders
  - Filtering e-mail to defined folders based on e-mail content, subject, sender, etc.
  - Limiting use of ‘inbox’ folder due to its critical function
- Client-level e-mail processing on central systems via simple, i.e., web, interface
  - Spam filtering
  - Simple proclmail usage
- Interaction with other OIT services
  - Tie-in to 'Webfiles' service for large attachments/file sharing/collaborations – e-mail attachment/detachment
- A school/department/campus Exchange service
  - Requests from some campus groups
  - Issues:
    - Funding for personnel
    - What service enhancements would this create?
    - Is it scalable on this campus

We are just beginning the information gathering and brainstorming phase are are eagerly open to discussions with and ideas from this group and others.

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