



Dear APRU Colleagues,

This is an exciting time for Information Technology (IT) professionals of APRU institutions. After a recent review of IT activities within our association a series of recommendations were made to the Secretary General. These were approved with endorsement by the APRU Steering Committee. As a result a standing committee was formed and I was asked to serve as the first chair of this committee. I am honored to serve in this role and I look forward to working with you in the coming months.

As we begin to plan for the future I want to make you aware of some key initiatives within our community, some of which you have previously been involved in, namely the APRU CIO Conference (now called 'CIO Forum') and the APRU Distance Learning and the Internet Conference (now called 'Education and Research Technology Forum').

If you have questions regarding any of these items or wish to provide input in the planning process please send me a message at cio@uoregon.edu.

CIO Contact List

One of the difficult challenges we face is maintaining a current list of all IT leaders at APRU member institutions. Please let Jacqueline Heng (jacqueline.heng@apru.org) at the APRU Secretariat know if you have changes in IT leadership at your institution. We want to make sure everyone is informed of new opportunities to work together.

Chief Information Officers (CIO) Forum (formerly CIO Conference)

After successful events at USC and the University of Indonesia we are eager to plan our next CIO Forum. At this time the bidding process is open and interested institutions should contact Jacqueline Heng for more information. It is our desire to have a forum no later than March/April 2010 and to follow a similar "round table" format that was used in Indonesia. We would like to continue the conversation regarding areas of mutual interest as well as facilitating partnerships on topics of mutual interest.

Education & Research Technology (ERT) Forum (formerly Distance Learning & the Internet Conference)

The concept for the new ERT Forum is to broaden the conversation about the role of IT in the academic work of our institutions. While the topic of distance learning is still welcome at the forum, our hope is that the range of topics might expand to include areas such as high performance computing, grid or cloud computing, learning space design, virtual services, and so forth. Like the CIO Forum the bidding process is open for the next ERT Forum and interested institutions should contact Jacqueline Heng for more information. We would like to schedule an ERT Forum as soon as feasible.

Combined CIO and ERT Forum

We are open to an institution proposing to host a combined event in which the CIO Forum might precede the ERT Forum. This would involve more in terms of logistics and number of participants, but would benefit from involvement of more CIOs in the ERT event. If you are interested in



hosting a combined forum please let Jacqueline or I know and we will work with you in exploring this possibility.

APRU Web Site

Over the next few months we will be further developing the aspects of the APRU website that pertain to IT leaders. One concept that Jacqueline Heng is working on is a “showcase” of IT resources and practices at member institutions. If you have a resource or practice that you would like to submit for inclusion on the APRU website please send the link to me and Jacqueline. We will post special feature write-ups on projects and collaborative work as well.

Collaboration Space

Some of you remember that after our initial CIO meeting in 2007 at USC there was a collaboration space set up on one of their Business School servers. Our friends at USC have made a commitment to re-launch this service on a server supported by the University CIO. We hope to have this site active again in September. We will issue usernames and passwords for any CIOs of APRU member institutions after the site as gone live. More information on this will be provided later.

APRU Volunteers Needed

I am looking for volunteers who would be interested in helping our IT community connect with the larger APRU community through attendance at APRU Research Symposiums or other association activities. If you have interest in reaching out to our APRU colleagues in this manner please let me know and we can communicate further on this topic. More information on APRU activities and research symposiums can be found at <http://www.apru.org/activities/index.htm> and <http://www.apru.org/activities/symposiums.htm>.

CIO Interest Groups

I am also looking for IT leaders who would like to be involved in providing leadership for one of the special interest groups similar to those we had in Indonesia at CIO 2008. For CIOs who were at the meeting in 2008, you may recall the groups included High Performance Computing, Video Conferencing, IT Governance, Wifi-roaming, E-Research, and IT Security. If you have interest in being involved in one of these groups or in starting a new research area please let me know.

As you can see, there are a number of areas where you can become involved in the APRU IT community. I hope despite your busy schedules you will make involvement with your colleagues in the Pacific Rim a priority in the coming months!

All the Best,

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Chair, APRU IT Initiatives Standing Committee