**A Solution to the printing system for Iowa State University**

1 Introduction

*Proposal*

I proposed that printing credits system for the student of Iowa State University should be changed by making the system to be identical as the Dining Dollar system would be great as students are able to buy the amount that they actually need for the semester.

*Background*

Currently, printing credits are allocated such that student from College of Engineering would get 4000 credits with a charge, but student from College of Human Sciences only get the bare minimum of 500 credits. It is very inefficient in a way because people from College of Engineering most like will not use up all the printing credits, and students are unable to bring over the printing credits to the next semester. On the other hand, students with minimum credits will be charged if they already use up their printing credit. “I think it’s pretty dumb...that we aren’t giving students enough printing credits to make it through the semester.” (Jeanette.VanZomeren, 2016) as one of the student states that for the six semesters he has been in the university, it has been times where he ran out of printing credit halfway of the semester.

*Scope*

In this document I will propose a method to improve the current printing credit system. I will also discuss how this will benefit many students and being cost effective to the users. This method will maximize the amount of credits needs if student ever need to. It does not account the amount of printing credit that will be allocated to the student at the starting of the semester.

2 Discussion

*Approach*

I believe the current system can be easily transfer over to Dining Dollar system. This is because both of it works similarly. This is because on the current Dining Dollar system, students are able to bring over the current remaining Dollars in Dining Dollar to the next semester. I hope to be able to finish up this upgrade as soon as possible and have a new system by the next semester. Doing so, the current system will not clash with the work.

*Result*

My method will result in a very cost-effective improvement to use the student’s printing credit. By porting over the Dining Dollar system allows students who have not use up their printing credit are still able to use it on the next semester. This is because some students may not have anything to print this semester, but on the next semester, they have tons of assignment to be printed out. This solution may cost some money to be built, but in a long term, it will give a lot of benefits to the students. Also, this method can be done in a very short time as the university already has its current system and its server base, so it is mostly work on the front end. For example, the webpage for the student to buy their printing credit.

*Statement of Work*

To build the system successfully, the following work must be done correctly:

Task 1: Build a new tab on Accessplus that allows users to buy their printing credit. (1 week)

Task 2: Work together with PaperCut in providing a page where users can buy their printing credit and does not necessary require user to pay through the U-bill. Instead, users are able to pay through their desirable payment method. (1-2 weeks)

Task 3: Update the server base and desktop to be able to work together with the new functionalities. (1-5 days)

Task 4: System testing and stress tests (2 days)

3 Resource

*Personnel*

Short Term: 10 or more Iowa State University intern employees

Long Term: 5 Iowa Student University part-time employees

Short term employees will only be working on the project during the break to build the system. However, the long-term employees will be working on maintaining the system and fix any bugs.

*Facilities and equipment*

Required hardware:

10 computers from the IT department from Iowa State University

4 Cost

*Fiscal*

* Computer: $1,000 each, so it will be 10 \* $1,000 = $10,000
* Labor at $11 per hour or short-term employees, it will be around 10 students \* 20 hours \* 3 weeks \* $11 =$6,600
* Labor at $10 per hour for long-term employees, so it will be around 5 students \* 10 hours \* 4 weeks \* $10 = $2,000 per month

*Time*

The system can be built right after the Spring semester and to be done before the Summer semester. The whole project requires around three weeks to be completed, including system testing. Preparation of the project and the server will probably take less than a day to be completed, and 1 day every week to discuss about the project progress. Long term employees will work around 10 hours a week to maintain the services and fix the bugs whenever it appears.

5 Conclusion

*Summary*

This proposal will provide Iowa State University students to have a more cost-efficient printing system that they can use around campus. By using the new system, students are able to bring over their current printing credits to the next semester. This allows students to save more money by not wasting the old credits, and the new system will encourage students to buy more credit as they know the credit they bought are able to be bring over and they do not need to use it all up within a semester.

For more information regarding this proposal, please contact Leonard Lim at [wxlim@iastate.edu](mailto:wxlim@iastate.edu), or (515)-555-5555.

# Works Cited

Jeanette.VanZomeren. (2016). *Iowa State Daily (April 25, 2016).* Ames: Iowa State Daily .