

Georgia Courts Automation Commission

Executive Director Report and Activity Update

February 17, 2006

Strategic Planning Sessions for Judges Councils

When the plan for this project was approved by the Commission twelve facilitated sessions, one Data Definition and one Strategic Technology Planning, were to be scheduled and completed for each class of court. Each session would require the dedicated time of 10 to 12 volunteers, judges and local court staff, for each session. The first session was held with the Municipal Courts the last week of September 2005. As of this reporting eight of those twelve scheduled sessions have been completed, five Data Definition and three Strategic Technology Planning.

The Councils of Municipal, Juvenile, State, Probate and Magistrate Court Judges have all completed Data Definition Sessions. The Councils of Juvenile, Municipal, and Probate Judges respectively have completed Strategic Technology Planning Sessions.

The Council of State Court Judges has their Strategic Technology Planning Session scheduled for February 28-March 3, 2006, the Council of Magistrate Court Judges has their Strategic Technology Planning Session scheduled for March 13-15th, and the Council of Superior Court Judges has targeted March 27-29th for their Data Definition Session with a potential April 18-20th for their Strategic Technology Planning Session. A current scheduling calendar is attached to this report for your reference.

It appears that in just a little more than six months the Commission, with the tremendously professional assistance of North Highland Consulting, will have successfully assisted all six of the Judges Councils with the development of a Strategic Technology Plans for their individual class of court.

Software Certification Program at Columbus State University

As approved by the Commission at the December 2005 meeting, the *Intergovernmental Contract for Services* between Columbus State University and GCAC is being extended through June 30, 2006. Working against the original contract deadline of December 31, 2005, Dr. Wayne Summers submitted a final report for this project that included documentation of software testing procedures. The University also submitted an invoice for the work performed through this original contract deadline.

Progress Reports for this contract were submitted to the Commission Office by CSU as a part of the agreement. These reports can be found at <http://www.csu-courts.blogspot.com/> under the Archives tab. Additional reports and information regarding this project can be found at <http://csc.colstate.edu/softwaretest/Traffic>.

The request from CSU to release them from that portion of the contract obligating them to serve as a commercial software tester and billing agent to the vendors and instead allowing them to operate under grants from the GCAC was discussed via a conference call with the Dr. Summers and Dr. Bosworth on February 3, 2006. A decision was made to have AOC IT evaluate, verify, and provide a report on the findings of the CSU certification program using their Traffic Information Processing System (TIPS) software as the initial test software; use the remaining funds of the contract to acquire CSU student services for software certification testing; schedule and conduct a meeting of the vendors forthwith to encourage participation in the certification process; and to process the invoice for certification of the first vendor through the GCAC Office. This action provides a pathway to keep the project moving along while allowing the Commission time to consider a more permanent solution.

Administrative Support Services from AOC

We are fortunate to now have administrative assistance provided by part time employee Patricia Gavel. Patricia joined the AOC IT staff January 3, 2006 and serves both AOC IT and GCAC. In the short time she has been employed, Patricia has been a valuable asset with the planning and preparation of the strategic planning sessions and the day-to-day operation of the office. As you have the opportunity to speak with Patricia, please welcome her and express your appreciation for all of the assistance she is providing to GCAC.

April 2006 GCAC Meeting

The next meetings of the Georgia Courts Automation Commission will be held April 26th, 27th & 28th at the Ocean View Beach Resort on Tybee Island. The first day of this three day session will be a facilitated work session to update the Commission's Strategic Business Plan.

GCAC Strategic Plan Update Meeting (facilitated meeting with all members)

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

9:00 AM until

Palmview meeting room

Note: If additional time is needed to complete this update, the morning hours of Thursday April 27th will be used for this activity.

Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 27, 2006

1:30 PM until 5:30 PM

Palmview meeting room

Business Meeting

Friday, April 28, 2006

9:00 AM until 12:00 PM

Palmview meeting room

A block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel for this event. If you require lodging for the GCAC meeting(s), please contact the hotel direct at 912-786-7777 or

you may contact Patricia Gavel at the AOC Office at 404-651-8180 or gavelp@gaaoc.us and she will provide reservation assistance to you. The room block will expire Friday March 24, 2006.

**Ocean View Beach Resort
Oceanfront at 15th Street
Tybee Island, Georgia
Phone: 912-786-7777
Web site: <http://www.oceanplaza.com/>**

The minutes of the December 2005 meeting and the agenda for the April 2006 Executive Meeting will be e-mailed to you just as soon as they are completed and ready for delivery.