

MSCF Minute



An electronic publication of the Minnesota State College Faculty

Policy Change Awareness

by Norm Halsa, MSCF Vice President for Technical

The current 5.22 policy on Acceptable Use of Computers and Information Technology Resources does not cover the use of your personal electronic devices such as a laptop, tablet, or phone. While proposed changes to this policy primarily address college-owned devices, a new proposed part 7 addresses Employee-Owned Cellular or Other Mobile Computing Devices. Within part 7, any MnSCU employee who chooses to use their personal device(s) for business purposes are subject to a provision that gives the employer the right to access said device(s) for legitimate business purposes upon demand. This includes the employer's right to remotely wipe all data and applications, including personal information.

These proposed policy changes were open for review

and comment. There was a lengthy discussion at Meet and Confer with the Chancellor on January 15. The discussion led to a future meeting with Vice Chancellor Laura King to go over the language and review changes to make the policy more acceptable.

On February 4, I along with David Aron, staff attorney for Education Minnesota, Patrice Arseneault and Kathryn Engdahl from IFO, met with Vice Chancellor King and MnSCU legal staff to discuss suggested changes. One of the major suggested changes brought by us and IFO proposed that Subpart B, "Privacy" be renamed, "Data Requests" with language that stated, "When needed to respond to requests under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act for data that is not otherwise available to the employer, employees are

expected to provide responsive business-related data that is on their device." The outcome of that meeting was MnSCU would review the suggested changes.

At the time of writing this article, we have not received any feedback to our revisions. We look forward to seeing this policy addressed at a future Board of Trustees meeting.

Volume 2, Issue 24
March 10, 2016

Contract News

The Legislative Subcommittee on Employee Relations approved our contract TA the morning of March 8. MnSCU has shared with us colleges will begin the implementation process and faculty can expect to see back pay on their 4/15/2016 paycheck.

Delegate Assembly

All delegates will be able to access Delegate Assembly materials via the new MSCF website beginning the week of March 28. This replaces the first materials mailing that was typically mailed to each delegate's home two weeks prior to the assembly. An email with instructions will be forthcoming.

For those who chose to Go Green this year, materials will be accessed via the same method as mentioned above during the assembly.

Some parting thoughts

The proposed policy should be placed on shared governance agendas for discussion. Part of that discussion should include the employer's plan regarding supplying the necessary technology and equipment to faculty to accomplish the goals of the teaching / learning process. If the employee-owned portion of the policy is unacceptable to you, we can only advise faculty not to communicate or store any business-related information on their devices. Stay tuned as this proposed policy moves forward.

