Information Technology End of Year Report

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State of the Website and Suggestions:

1. Maintenance: As of 4/25/2021, Truman State Student Government's website -- senate.truman.edu -- has been brought up to date. My suggestion for the next IT Director is to take an hour each week at the beginning of the semester to update the website. Some areas to focus your efforts would be general body and ExComm minutes, executive orders, the Student Senate roster, committee membership, the Zoom link for general body meetings, and more. I would also suggest to keep in contact with senators who join the senate later in the semester and request that they email the University Photographer Tim Barcus tbarcus@truman.edu, so that we can get a professional photo of them for the website. In order to gain access to the website, please fill out the form and turn it in to Truman Web Services located in McLain 111. Then, you will get an email from ITS that will explain how to use the authorized word press. In that email, there will be resources to help you navigate and edit the website.

2. Spam Issue: There was a previous comment feature on the website. It was found that there were 40,000 spam comments on the website. The Assistant IT Director disabled the comment feature, deleted spam comments, unsuccessfully attempted to install anti-spam software, and kept them turned off. Overall, our suggestion is to continue to keep the comment feature turned off. If each member of the body provides their emails, there should be no need for comments on the website, especially if people have a way to contact the IT Director.

3. Streamline processes: This semester, Staff Advisor Laura mentioned having some streamlined process for a few functions for all fee based organizations. We did not implement this streamlined process this semester, but it would be appropriate for the incoming IT Director to set up a meeting with Laura, the incoming Treasurer, and the other fee based organizations to move forward with this project.

4. Women's Leadership Conference: We created a website with the web domain trumanwlc.com using wix. I will relinquish the user domain, and it must be bought by the incoming senator again if she/he wants to build a website for the event again. It would be appropriate to work with the Women's Leadership Conference chair to implement this website for the next conference.

5. Election Live Results: At the end of my term, it was suggested that we add a feature to the elections portion of the website that would allow the candidates running to see the votes in their favor, each day. This will allow students to gauge how their campaign efforts are going throughout the election season.

6. IT Assistant Position: This position was created this semester because there was a lot of expressed interest in the position. I would suggest that it not be implemented again. It was hard to communicate and co-operate senate.truman.edu. There were projects that were half done, and it was difficult to work on a project asynchronously because we would overwrite each other's work. This position is better served under one individual.