On July 12th, the chairs, directors of our undergraduate and graduate programs, resource manager, and the assistant dean of student affairs assembled to discuss the following: the possible use of a cloud-based system to manage the Schedule B (and potentially other recurring forms) and to begin a discussion on a policy for “outside employment.”

A representative from Mindtouch demonstrated the capability of its platform to dynamically maintain each faculty member’s Schedule B. This would eliminate the need to supply a Schedule B with FDP and Grad Fee applications (and other times when it is needed). It would also serve as a repository for our AACSB Maintenance of Accreditation and an inventory of our faculty’s research. The next step is to build a demonstration of the system, and seek feedback for further action. If successful, this system can then be used to maintain other forms and be used for online collaboration.

SDSU Policy states that “San Diego State University shall generally support appropriate consulting and other external professional activities by its professional personnel but it shall not permit such activities that interfere with university duties. Activities that may enhance professional experience and complement campus activities in general should not exceed the equivalent of a 20 percent overload (i.e., one three-unit class).” In addition, SDSU Policy states that “A teaching or research appointment at another educational institution is an appropriate professional activity when justified by professional returns to the faculty member and the university. When, however, a conflict of interest may arise, the faculty member shall contact the department chair or school director regarding appropriateness of the proposed teaching or research activity at another institution.” The committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of outside teaching (and other activities). A decision of this issue is tabled for the next meeting, which is scheduled for August 16th from 9-11 in the DCR.

Gangaram