



Minutes of the Computing Advisory Committee

March 23, 1999

Minutes of Computing Advisory Committee Meeting March 23, 1999

Those attending: David Blakesley, JP Dunn, Patty Cosgrove for Al Allen, Duke Koch, Larry Schilling, Ruth Bernhardt, Tom Petroski for Brad Wilke, Susan Logue for Carloyn Snyder, James Duggan, Pierre Barrette, Geoff Nathan.

The meeting began with a report from Patty Cosgrove on IT issues. There has been so far no official word on modem upgrades, nor have there been any results yet on discussions with ATS and Comdisco. IT has received funding from IBHE to connect Trueblood. Once the infrastructure is on the other side of the tracks, other facilities can be connected with less difficulty. Some faculty on the west side of campus are still not connected to CAN, but Allyn, Shyrock, Lawson, and Quigley are now in the process of being connected to the CAN. It was pointed out, however, that some departments can't afford to activate the B-Jacks and that IT can't afford to install routers in the wire closets. Geoff pointed out that the extra \$100,000 in our desktop replacement proposal is intended to cover such costs, and that the Student Technology fee will cover the public access labs.

It is now clear that all fiscal offices will need computers that meet Oracle's minimum requirements, but there is no budget provision for this. The CAC has been charged with calculating the cost for these computers. We can obtain the names and locations of all fiscal offices on campus from the Oracle project. It was pointed out that we will need to figure additional cost for token-ring cards.

Pierre Barrette wondered whether IT had long-term plans for the infrastructure? Susan Logue suggested making the suggested \$100,000 in additional funds an addendum to the original document, and not part of the desktop replacement plan. It was also pointed out that some departments have no budget for software.

Pierre Barrette attended the Internet 2 conference where opinion is that 6 years is the life cycle of the infrastructure. He suggested that we should look at what is required for Internet 2 protocols. The current cost to join the I2 group is \$25,000 -- we could gain much needed information by becoming an I2 member. Susan Logue pointed out that significant grant money has been awarded to institutions from IBM and other corporations to institutions to study the implications of I2.

Geoff Nathan agreed that it was a good idea to take the request for funds for infrastructure out of the general fund for desktop replacement, and Duke Koch added that it would be good to mention in thereport that addendum is to follow.

Patty Cosgrove pointed out that information is available concerning the campus infrastructure at the following address:

<http://www.infotech.siu.edu/neteng>

Duke Koch pointed out that although the Y2K survey asks the mode of network connection the Y2K desktop survey was not concerned with the infrastructure. He reminded the group that Y2K - System wide committee information could be found at

<http://www.siu.edu/~year2000/>

Pierre Barrette wondered whether we have to be concerned with bandwidth, and the answer appears to be yes, because bandwidth is a big part of what it will take to get I@ running. Geoff Nathan pointed out that during discussions on the future of VBNS (another highspeed network) people pointed out that it was not too expensive to bring fat pipe to campus, but very expensive to bring to individual desktops. He suggests that we need to put bandwidth issue on our agenda. Continuing discussion of the desktop plan, Geoff said he would send the revised Desktop Replacement Proposal out to all committee members tomorrow.

On a related issue, Pierre Barrette pointed out that the department of Curriculum and Instruction has approx. 65 part time teaching faculty with a full load, and that these individuals can't be made to feel like second class citizens; they also have computing needs. Geoff Nathan added that some GAs have their own classes and that they too might need to be included. Larry Schilling pointed out that 10% of faculty are part time. Larry Schilling asked whether we intended to supply a computer to the fiscal officers for the Oracle project. Geoff replied that Skip Hardenburg reported that in the original budget, there was no provision to provide computers to these individuals.

At the next meeting we will have an update on the modem replacement project. The ISP proposal (MidWest Internet) has been sent to the planning and budget committee. Patty will send firewall information to committee members

The meeting adjourned: 3:50 pm.

The next meeting will be on April 13 at 3:00 P.M. in the Balcony Conference Room.

Last Updated: April 12, 1999--DB

[Return to the CAC Home Page](#)