SIUC Computing Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes of 5 December 2000


The minutes of the 7 November 2000 meeting were approved with one correction: Duke Koch was in attendance.

Don Olson reported for IT that 1) SIUC is now a member of Internet2, and IT representatives are talking to IT departments at other Internet2 members at the University of Illinois, Washington University in St. Louis, and several research labs in Chicago about additional potential Internet2 initiatives; and 2) IT has outlined two possible approaches for PC Replacement plans on campus in a memo the University Administration. The plans are being discussed by various groups, including the CAC and Dean's Council.

Larry Schilling re-introduced discussion on a proposed amendment to the CAC Constitution that would add a Chancellor's representative to the CAC. Several members pointed out that the group was already a large constituent-representative body, and, as an advisory committee to the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Administration, the CAC could effectively report on its activities to the Chancellor through the CAC Chair. The amendment remained tabled.

A second proposed amendment that would add a second undergraduate student representative remained tabled in the absence of the member making the proposal.

Discussion turned to Andrew Lumpe's concerns about the Undergraduate Technology Fee Funding Procedures. It was reported that the College of Education had received a letter on July 31, 2000 indicating that the College was allocated $52,222 from the undergraduate Technology Fee funds. When the College started working with IT to purchase the items, the proposed prices were less due to price fluctuations (typical with tech-related items). The College was told that they would not receive the difference (about $11,000) essentially leaving the College with $41,000 instead of the original $52,222. The original letter to the College indicated a dollar amount, not just the purchase of the proposed items. Don Olson suggested that the Undergraduate Student Tech Fee Committee would probably be looking at a number of issues next year, including membership, award letter wording, and allocation based on student populations (an issue raised by some departments and colleges). Questions were also raised about what happens to the money awarded to individual colleges but not spent, and the status of unfunded proposals. Because committee members were unclear as to how the Undergraduate Fee Committee was formed, James Duggan volunteered to contact Geoff Nathan (an Undergraduate Fee Committee member) to find out specifics, and Andrew Lumpe
will draft a letter to the Undergraduate Fee Committee that the CAC will consider at its next meeting.

The next topic, PC Replacement plan options for SIUC, was introduced by Larry Schilling, who serves as a representative of the Chancellor's Planning and Budget Council's Technology Subcommittee, and sought input from the CAC. Copies of the proposals were distributed to the CAC members. Don Olson, who made the original proposal, summarized the two pc replacement options that he had identified, and discussion centered on what colleges and departments are currently doing, the potential costs and where funding might have to come from to make the plan a success. Larry indicated that the Vice Chancellor was hoping to make a decision by May 2001; CAC members agreed to look over the proposals and bring them back for discussion at the January 2001 meeting.

The final topic, updating the Long-Range Plan for Academic Computing at SIUC, was discussed. It was mentioned that many of the proposals in the May 1998 plan had been accomplished, and thus Don Olson asked that the plan be updated. With the consent of the CAC membership, a Long-Range Plan subcommittee was formed, with Don Olson as chair. Subcommittee members include Ruth Bernhardt, Phillip Chu, J.P. Dunn, and Dick Steffen. James Duggan will draft a charge for the committee.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, January 23, 2001, at 8:30 a.m. in Morris Library's American Heritage Room (306).

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