

Computing Advisory Committee

Summary Minutes

Meeting of June 11, 1997

Present: Skip Hardenbergh, Carolyn Snyder, Susan Logue, Karen Jennings (for Ruth Bernhardt), David Shinn, Chris Svec, Rakesh Neunaha, Al Allen, John Hamman, Duke Koch, Dennis Leitner, Geoff Nathan (Chair and recorder)

We first discussed the letter calling for LAN administrators to identify themselves and be ready to attend a meeting of an administrators group. After some suggestions on wording Geoff will finish the letter, and with the help of Vice Chancellors Jackson and Tweedy will send it out.

The next item was the new security findings sent on to us by the President's office. There was considerable discussion about the particular recommendations, and it was suggested that Geoff draft a letter to Cheryl Farabaugh-Dorkins (the President's Special Assistant for Computing) stating that we (i.e. the Carbondale campus) has received the finding, is considering appropriate responses, and is in the process of establishing a committee of LAN administrators to implement security measures. In the mean time it was suggested that we convene an interim group of LAN administrators from well-known and established units on campus. Geoff will contact the Library, Computer Science, IT, Engineering and a New Media Center administrator to get a small preliminary group to look at the recommendations and make an interim recommendation on security measures.

Finally we turned to a set of suggested long-range priorities for academic computing on campus. The final list will be placed on the web page, available for discussion in a structured manner. We had some discussion about the desirability of the first set of recommendations. Everyone agreed that increased availability of public computers (both in labs and in the library) was a valuable goal. In addition, ensuring that all faculty and staff who want and need connection to the CAN in a vital goal.

Another goal that was discussed at some length was the enhancement of classroom facilities such as the ones in Lawson hall. Network jacks and LCD screens or similar projection devices need to be added to at least some of the classrooms. Some caution was suggested, however, about whether there really was a demand for these services.

There was some discussion of ways to enhance connectivity in the dorms and via off-campus dial-up lines. Skip and Al reported that they have been in conversation with GTE about the possibility of GTE becoming an Internet Service Provider, providing access for students and staff at a much cheaper rate than local ISP's. They are still at the preliminary exploration stage at this point.

Discussion of the final set of points was deferred until the next scheduled meeting, which will be Wednesday, July 30, in the Anthony Hall balcony conference room unless it is unavailable.