

SIUC Computing Advisory Committee

DRAFT Meeting Minutes of 23 September 2002

Those present: Bob Baer, Ruth Bernhardt, Michelle Cunningham, James Duggan (recorder), Jim LeBeau, Don Olson (ex officio), Don Rice, Amy Sileven, Chih-Fang Wang, Lichang Wang.

James Duggan (Chair) welcomed the new members to the committee, and explained that the committee serves as an advisory group to the Provost's office, and recommends new policies (and policy changes) that deal with campus computing. Duggan mentioned the committee's two current subcommittees (Long Range Plan and Academic Computing), and asked that members look for an agenda call approximately one week before the next meeting.

Don Olson was asked about internet spam and individual e-mail accounts on campus; Don indicated that the best way to deal with the problem of spam was to use some of the generally-available filtering software to "filter" out the offending spam. He added that there was no way to put in a blanket prohibition on some types of spam as it might also filter out e-mail that is necessary.

Don Olson announced the following IT items: 1) IT is working on providing new ftp software for the University; they hope to have a seamless transition to the new ftp server software in a couple of weeks. The new software should make it easier to "point and click" to download software. IT will continue to produce the Saluki-ware CD-ROM; 2) IT is working on establishing a computer clearinghouse for SIU departments (the clearinghouse would provide a central location for listing surplus computer equipment that can be requested by various departments needing additional equipment. The clearinghouse would likely be web-based, and provide a fairer way of announcing the surplus equipment to the campus community at large); 3) IT plans to purchase a new version of webmail for the campus, which will take care of some of the problems with the current webmail software, including allowing the option of *not* downloading e-mail from the server when the user is checking e-mail away from a home computer, and allowing users to keep copies of outgoing e-mail.

Don also announced: 4) IT is looking to install a new telephone switch, that will produce some cost-savings over the next 5-10 years for the University. The switch will allow for voice lines over IP, and unified messaging (i.e., faxes, voice mail, e-mail on one account); 5) The University's Dell contract will be offered to members of the Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (faculty staff & students at the area's community college systems, to help keep the contract prices low; 6) The University is making available multi-party control units (to facilitate the use of more than 2-person conferencing over Internet2. IT is sending a staff member for training, when completed the staff member will be able to assist in setting up the equipment for the conferencing; 7) IT is testing web registration and hopes to have more testing done in the Spring.

Don indicated that the chair of Security Subcommittee of the Long-Range Planning Committee will be meeting with him in a few days, and hopes to

have a status report for the CAC at the next meeting. Don reported for the Undergraduate Tech Fee Committee, which is composed of himself, James Duggan and Dan Mann (Financial Aid), and four undergraduate students (names are being finalized, but Tim Wills is the Chair). The committee has received 47 proposals requesting approximately 1.7 million dollars in computer equipment (projections indicate there will be only about \$800,000 to award in 2002-2003). The committee plans to begin its deliberations shortly.

Don was asked about 1) wireless connectivity on campus, including residence halls. Don replied that Wham/Pulliam were fitted with wireless, and that Morris Library and the Student Center had ongoing projects. Residence Halls would be difficult to fit because of the number of receivers needed for the many small rooms; and 2) the rumored replacement of the Oracle (AIS) system. Don indicated that IT was looking at possible alternative systems, but no decision has been reached. Adding to the potential mix was the possibility that the current student information system may only be supported by its corporate owner for a few more years. Don cautioned that the decisions on possible replacement systems are still in the investigative stages.

Amy Sileven raised the issue of Student Affairs making the decision not to make the catalog and other registration information available in paper format, and voiced concern about lack of student involvement in the decision, and potential strain on the web-based system. Although Don Olson indicated that he felt the system could handle the increased usage, the committee suggested inviting a representative of Student Affairs to the next CAC meeting. James Duggan indicated he would contact Ann DeLucca and invite her to attend.

The question of the Student Center using an .org address rather than an .edu address was raised. James Duggan volunteered to investigate the question with the Director of the Student Center.

The next meeting was set for Monday, October 21, 2002, from 9:00am-10:00am in Morris Library's American Heritage Room (306).

Last Updated: Monday, September 30, 2002--JPD

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