

# Academic Computing Committee

Minutes

September 9, 2002

## Members Present

J. Alvares [proxy: R. Gigliotti], P. Campbell, E. Chapel, D. Deremer, T. Devlin, K. Hollister, L. Jenkins [proxy: A. Cutler], AJ Kelton, G. Klajman, M. Kruge, J. Luttrupp, J. Schaffer, R. Sharps [proxy: G. Newman], M. Topic, R. Wolfson

## Members Absent

A. Oppenheim, M. Saias

## Guests Present

J. Ceravelo, M. Heller, M. Mallery, J. Minier, R. Salomon

Presiding: AJ Kelton, Chair

Reporting: J. Schaffer, Secretary

Convened: 4:05 p.m. [Library Special Collections Room]

Adjourned: 5:29 p.m.

Distribution: Academic Computing Committee web

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.
2. Minutes: The minutes of the May 13 meeting were accepted without correction. Motion: D. Deremer; second: R. Wolfson.
3. Announcements: D. Deremer announced that on October 8, CSAM will be hosting a team for the National Accreditation for Computer Science; they may be canvassing people around campus.
4. Chair's Report: New members and guests were introduced. Meeting dates are posted on the ACC web. There was some discussion concerning the rescheduling of the meetings to the second Wednesday at the 4:00 p.m. block reserved for meetings. J. Schaffer is to check the schedule. The October meeting will remain at the posted date. Any changes will occur after a schedule change, if any, is approved at the October meeting. The term "subcommittee" is to be corrected to "committee" on the ACC web. A Graduate School representative is still needed. The Lab Software Policy was tabled for the next meeting. The brownbag on plagiarism will occur in October, date to be confirmed.
5. OIT Report: E. Chapel reported that, since R. Roper left on May 17, the academic computing agenda has been revised. Instructional support services will be handled by P. Campbell; instructional design and course development will be handled by S. Amirian. An announcement is due to be posted concerning new OIT staff: MIS director, database administrator. An organizational matrix will also be sent out. The Helpline should be everyone's first call. Hardware upgrades are progressing: Alphas are replacing the VAX core cluster for administrative operations. In response to the developing need for network-wide, standardized backup for the many servers on campus; OIT has purchased the Storage Area Network solution, an automated backup system that operates

overnight. The network infrastructure will be overhauled, beginning with a prototype to serve as a Phase I test; if the Phase I test is successful, full scale rollout will be ready for the Fall 2003 semester. The upgraded network will be fully switched, have a gigabit Ethernet backbone, and will provide full redundancy – all of which will provide enhanced performance. The upgrade will meet or exceed the demand for video feed since ports throughout the network will be provided with 10/100 mbps or more to desktops, where appropriate. All leased equipment will be rolled over in three phases [November, mid-March, and June]; of the 800 machines, 500 are in the labs; replacements will be IBMs and Apples. The change in equipment will affect the software build decision. Of the course management systems, Blackboard is the best; although it is about to go public, it's \$150,000/year price is good; its Enterprise solution will simplify things. The School of Business will run the new Blackboard as a pilot project. E. Chapel asked the Committee to endorse the Blackboard pilot.

**MOTION:** The Academic Computing Committee supports an enterprise-wide solution with a test pilot in the School of Business, with a presentation of the School of Business test prior to the end of the current academic year.

Motion: R. Wolfson

Second: J. Alvares

Passed: Unanimous

Others interested in participating in the pilot should contact P. Campbell.

6. Strategic Planning Process: R. Wolfson announced that the Senate will address the strategic plan and mission statement on October 16 at 2:30 p.m. Input from the Committee is welcomed. A subcommittee to draft a response for the Committee was formed: J. Alvares, M. Kruge, and R. Sharps.
7. Digital Storage [Student]: K. Hollister suggested that consideration be given to providing storage space for students, either on the hard drives of lab machines or on a special server. This would allow them to store work in progress in a manner similar to Blackboard's "digital drop box."
8. Citrix Thin Client: J. Alvares reported that this program is not as robust as expected and is problematic. It is good for mundane, repetitive functions such as data entry and can only handle a limited number of functions.
9. Digital Millennium Copyright Act: J. Minier will be spearheading this issue. OIT requested that the Committee review the Guidelines for Responsible Computing to be certain that we are in compliance.
10. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by M. Kruge; seconded by J. Schaffer. The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Approved 021111