LMAC Minutes February 22, 2005

Present: Bill Barry (ex-officio), Randy Bentson, Karen Fischer (ex-officio), John Hanson, Rob Hutchinson, Matt Murray, Michael Nanfito (visitor), Lotus Perry, Matt Warning (chair), Paula Wilson, Geoff Proehl,

Warning called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.
The minutes from the February 8, 2005 meeting were approved.

Barry announced a Mellon Funding GIS workshop (Geographic Information Systems). National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education. The workshop will be held July 11-15th, 2005. Fifteen faculty, in teams of two containing one faculty member and one technology expert will participate. Watch for this opportunity.

Barry raised the issue of universal computing.
Hanson suggested universal computing means access to a computer anywhere anytime. For example, one could walk into a classroom or the SUB and access the Internet. He envisions students accessing data in his Organic Lab.

Bentson asked if universal computing means only universal access to the Internet?

Hanson responded not exactly. An element, certain software ubiquity, but this would need to be defined by the campus. Microsoft Office is generic, could be something else with a word processor and spreadsheet. Currently, we're in a situation where anyone who wants to do something must create the infrastructure. This is a lot of work, but it can be done.

Nanfito asked about the role of student laptops. Should UPS require laptops of all income students? Willamette—Grad School of Management requires laptops. No other peer institutions require laptops. Reed offers loans to obtain them. Many state schools and small schools require them. On the CIO *listserv,* the question about student laptops has been raised and the need for fewer PCs in labs. Maybe we should take that money to buy licenses and give licenses to students. George Fox University is expected to move back to PC labs, a change from originally requiring freshmen to have laptops. Students bring their laptops in and at any time, approximately 10% are not working.

Nanfito said ResNet folks are fixing PCs now. It wasn't planned.

Perry suggested transitioning in stages to reach universal access, with conventional hook ups and labs.

Nanfito offered his view that Department Labs will never go away. He suspects general access labs may diminish.

Barry suggested that committing the campus to universal computing may be premature. Perhaps LMAC can create a vision statement. May be what we need to do is figure out how to move in stages.

Barry showed a handout with questions for instructional computing. He asked Karen (Fischer) if she had gone over these questions?

Fischer said the library is working on question number six. The library staff members want to know if they are asking the right questions.

Barry asked whether or not UPS should offer laptops to faculty, or, create more electronic classrooms.

Barry said we don't need to finish this discussion today. We could have a subcommittee draft a document for TPG, or Nanfito and Barry could work together, using Lotus' notes and organize by wants, needs, and means.

Bentson expressed his discomfort with universal computing. He wants a check list, defined. He is concerned with proposing a goal without having the means to test it when it is accomplished; this is not good practice.

Warning asked, "Do I hear a motion to take Bill up on his offer?"

Hutchinson responded by making a motion.
Wilson seconded.

Warning called for discussion.

Perry reminded us of a specific discussion LMAC had before the New Year, in which it created a wish list. Perry recognized that it is hard to rank them.

Hutchinson suggested creating a draft and e-mailing it to LMAC members. LMAC could tweak the list.

Warning suggested that Hanson has many ideas. Anyone who wants to play a role at the early stage is welcome.

Hansons said Lotus is right. We've had this discussion before.

Barry suggested we return to Perry's minutes.

Nanfito said that TPG wants to see what LMAC is talking about.

Hanson stated that one thing bothered him. "I'm not an expert. I have ideas of what I'd like to try. I don't know how to get from here to there. I'd like an expert to give us pros and cons. As a scientist, I look for evidence. What have other people done?"

Warning asked whether we are going to put out a wish list.

Bentson reminded us that we already put together a wish list. We could expand and better define the list. We should evaluate the merits of the ideas.

Nanfito suggested there is no one formula that works.

Barry offered one caveat. We have an impression of how to proceed and we seem to be going in the right direction. According to the Mellon Foundation and The West Coast Center Strategic Planning for Instructional Technology, where are college campuses of our size going?

Hanson said we need to start moving even though we don't have the answer.

Hutchinson recalled the November 30 meeting during which we made a wish list. Did we prioritize? Someone responded no.

Benson asked about wired access: high band width in the future, well beyond what we can do today. Wireless might be an effective way to fill in space, to use portable PCs.

Hutchinson asked whether there was a focus?

Warning said we should work from the wish lists, move blocks around and then send to TPG.

Nanfito suggested that any document be considered a living document. He also suggested the following structure:
> 1. Infrastructure
> 2. Staff training
> 3. Developmental technologies, content DM.

Bentson said this will involve decisions and we'll identify the decisioin points.

Hanson said we can identify what we see as needs, from general infrastructure to programming needs.

Nanfito emphasized "the what" not "the how".

Bentson suggested identifying wants, needs, and means.

Perry liked the idea of Nanfito being involved.

Barry asked, "what do we want? OIS works on how we get there."

Warning said, "we're talking as end users."

We adjourned at 4:30 p.m.
Minutes submitted by Paula Wilson

Next meeting: March 8, 2005. The next meeting has since been rescheduled for some time after spring break.