

**Library, Media & Academic Computing Committee Minutes**  
**March 25, 1999**

**Present:** K. Bartanen, R. Beezer, J. Deters, N. Michal, H. Orloff, L. Ricigliano, R. Steiner

Meeting was called to order at 8:00.

The meeting was devoted to a sharing and discussion of feedback received from individual interviews, focus discussion groups, and e-mail correspondence by LMAC Committee members with faculty in a number of departments.

Beezer share the results of this discussions with the physics, chemistry and mathematics and computer science faculty. Different faculty expressed different needs, perceptions, and issues, but generally there was a stated need for better ways to share information/presentations with students, whether with more electronic classrooms or better and more big screen monitors. An concept presented by Beezer for faculty to be provided with laptops with keyboards and monitors and that all classrooms be equipped with projection devices was strongly supported by the science faculty. This way the user would not be dependent on the machine in the room having the "right " software, or being the "right" machine, or having to get into the room prior to a presentation to assure that the hardware and software was compatible and fully functional. The science faculty were split on whether students should be required to own computers. Some faculty expressed the need for better machines in the science labs. Current machines are inadequate. There also was the expressed need for better support of course specific software. Although most faculty indicated knowledge of what other faculty are doing and of campus services, there was support for more technology forums, especially where faculty share what they are doing with technology.

Deters provided feedback from the English and foreign language faculty. He indicated that most of the English and foreign language faculty indicate an awareness of what other faculty are doing with technology. Generally the faculty were not in favor of student ownership of computers by about a 2 to 1 margin. At least one faculty member expressed the need for dedicated computer writing laboratory for students enrolled in English courses, especially freshman composition.

Orloff shared feedback from selected faculty in occupational and physical therapy. She indicated that the PT faculty she interviewed felt that students should own laptops whereas the OT faculty was split about 50/50. The OT/PT faculty also supported the idea that the faculty replacement policy be expanded to include a choice desktop or laptop machines in addition to the different platforms.

Ricigliano provided e-mail and focus group feedback received from history, music, philosophy, religion and classics. The main uses of these faculty was for presentations, internet/www uses and web board conferences. There was some support for student ownership of computers, but it varied from faculty to faculty. The need for more and better technology support was raised. The possible use of in-house workstudy with good technology skills was proposed. Several faculty expressed the view that general technology workshops were ineffective and that point-of-need workshops or individual help would be much more effective. Another issue raised was the frustration of faculty trying to check their e-mail from off-campus while at conferences, etc. There appeared to be widely different experiences by faculty who have tried to do this.

Michal shared from feedback from students who he had interviewed. The need for general use labs with reasonably state-of-art fully functioning computers and printers seemed to be the biggest student concern.

Written reports from Sousa (P & G) and Fiegener (SBPA) were distributed to committee members. Many of the issues, concerns and suggestions presented by committee members in attendance were also conveyed in these reports

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55.

Next meeting of LMAC will be on Thursday, April 8 at 8:00 in Library 134. Feedback from other faculty interviews will be shared at that meeting as well as a proposal from Beezer.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Steiner