

Minutes of the Library, Media, and Academic Computing Committee

1/23/96

Present: Raney Ellis, Mott Greene, John Hanson, Cory Hutton, Mary Rose Lamb, Marta Robertson, and John Woodward.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM in Library 134.

I. The meeting began with a request for schedules from individuals so that a permanent meeting time could be reached.

II. The minutes of November 28, 1995 were approved. Ellis added that people interested in the electronic classroom issues would be contacted by himself and Mitchell.

III. Timetable for Replacing Desktop Computers.

Ellis discussed his original proposal to the Budget Task Force, requesting two simultaneous rounds of computer replacements. The intent was to change the installation schedule, so that replacements would occur during the summer, rather than during the academic year. The request was not funded.

Ellis then suggested that the replacement schedule be shifted to postpone next year's replacement until spring 1997, rather than the originally scheduled fall of 1996. Once the shift is made, the new schedule would continue to be followed. These improvements would result: 1. New systems would be installed during the summer, for faculty who will be using them in the summer. 2. All systems would be installed (hopefully) by the beginning of the academic year. 3. The installations would coincide with the lighter workload of the OIS staff. 4. There would be better storage for the systems awaiting installation. (The new plan also would accommodate a shift in the fiscal year if that occurs.) This proposal does not apply to systems purchased with departmental funds and grant money or to lab replacements. Exceptions would be handled case by case.

In the discussion that followed Hanson pointed out that colleagues with objections to the new schedule would fall into the case-by-case category. Ellis added that they are a bit ahead of schedule on replacements right now.

IV. Printer Paper (3-Hole vs. Nonpunched).

Ellis reported on information from an Educom meeting in Portland. At issue is the use of three-hole punched paper for course-related work on laser printers. (Students would supply their own paper for materials not related to coursework.) While three-hole punched paper is more expensive, less is consumed under this system, resulting in a savings of thirty percent.

In the discussion that followed, Woodward questioned how specific laser printers would be stopped for paper changes, Ellis mentioned that some schools charge for paper, Hanson suggested a system that discourages excessive use without an edict, Greene mentioned the issue of environmental waste, and Hanson suggested a voluntary system of printing on the backs of previously-used pages. A go ahead was given.

V. Faculty Technology Survey Status.

Woodward discussed the status of the Faculty Technology Survey and its troubles with the Institutional Review Board. It was decided and confirmed by Finney that the survey constituted research and needed to be approved by the IRB. Apparently a loophole exists that if students conducted the survey as a class project, and since the survey is not intended to be published or to "generalize knowledge," it would be exempt from the IRB. After some discussion of how to proceed, it was decided that since Price was on the Board and would effectively make the same decision again, that the survey should be classified as a class project.

With the decision to continue in place, questions of mailing, signatures, return date, and identifying labels were decided. The survey was to be sent out the following week, with a return date of two weeks later.

A suggested topic for the next meeting was Software Support Policy.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM.

We will be notified of a permanent meeting time.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta Robertson