

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COMMITTEE on COMPUTER RESOURCES
An Academic Senate Standing Committee

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 8, 2006, in M-127 at 2 PM

Attending: Sharon Ellerton, Robert Kueper, Danny Mangra, Nam Jo Moh, Phyllis Pace, George Sherman, Jun Shin, George Thorsen and Craig Weber.

Absentees:

1. Minutes from the Oct. 18, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. Chair Thorsen presented information and concerns from the Student Tech Fee Committee regarding spending of tech fees during 2006/2007:
 - a. Cycling of hardware should occur ever 4 years to prevent aging of hardware and having computers that are no longer under warranty.
 - b. Spending of tech fee money is decided at the departmental level.
 - c. Some departments want to buy equipment rather than replace aging hardware. Some scientific equipment such as digital devices may be purchased using student tech fees.
 - d. Purchasing equipment and not replacing PCs will lead to 8 year old, outdated machines that will have no warranty for several years.
 - actual length of warranty was unclear. Dell invoices indicated a 3 year warranty while IT Director Sherman believes it should be a 4 year warranty.
 - e. This may create a problem in a few years.
 - f. It was noted that the price of PCs has fallen and that this enhances our ability to stretch a tight Tech Fee funded budget.
 - g. Printers are included in the replacement recycling program on an “as per needed” basis.
3. IT Director Sherman reported on the CUNY campus wide agreement with Microsoft that entitles faculty/staff to various MS operating systems and MS office suites for their office or home computers, including Vista when it becomes available. These will not be available for the students. The software is available through the CUNY Portal E-mail.
4. CCR Newsletter writing assignments:
 - a. Dec. 15, 2006 deadline for submission to Sharon Ellerton
 - b. January 1, 2006 deadline for submission of edited articles to George Thorsen.
 - c. Approximate size of articles to be 150 words. Links may be included.
 - d. Reviewed some strategies related to articles including:
 - Kueper’s article to combine tech fee origin and fee with tech fee projects.
 - Mangra’s article on faculty e-mail may include reference to other college’s use of Proof Point which gives a digest of spam. Perhaps there is a CUNY wide license?
 - Ellerton’s article on E-Mail to include simplifying access instructions and comparing reduced CUNY prices to typical retail prices. The article will also include simple instructions to guide the user to where the resources are available i.e. the eMall of the CUNY Portal and to any instructions that are on the CUNY Portal.
 - Kueper’s article on blackboard/e-mail: establish a universal username and password convention.
 - Pace’s article on departmental computer lab hours. ECET site has a link to computer lab times.
 - Weber’s article on e-portfolio – discuss how it interfaces with Blackboard. Cumbersome process which may deter students.

5. New Business – Prof. Kueper discussed the networking cameras that have been installed in classrooms that have video and audio capability for the purpose of securing costly equipment. There is a potential problem because some faculty do not want to have their class activities recorded without their knowledge or permission. The PSC is actively engaged in exploring the privacy issues surrounding the use of web cams. At this time, the CCR has agreed to wait until Spring, 2007 to pursue the use of web cams. We will gather information and keep abreast of developments.
6. Next meeting date to be Dec. 13, 2006.
7. Meeting was dismissed at 2:55 PM.