

## **Minutes of the meeting of the UCT on May 12, 2004. at Bourneuf House**

All members of the committee were present. In the first half of the meeting, Rita Owens (Associate Academic Vice President for Technology) brought us up to date on projects and goals in support of technology.

She is going ahead with a summer workshop June 14-18 for the 5 or 6 faculty members who are working on e-learning projects. These faculty members will get dedicated resources for the remainder of the summer after the workshop.

Rita also reported on the symposia this academic year on e-publishing, e-learning, and e-teaching. All have adopted the model of small-targeted presentations for training and a plenary speaker at lunch. Each of these symposia has attracted a wide spectrum of faculty members. Bill Petri suggested that the dates for future symposia be scheduled as early as possible. Rita also reported that as a member of the undergraduate education planning committee she has promoted supporting proposals for improving the core with technology.

A possible topic for next year is to address the need for a new facility for Media Technology Services, formerly AV. Currently the AV center is under pressure from increased use of media in coursework, and a lack of adequate facilities and staff. An advisory group is currently considering the needs of a new facility for audio, video, and graphic arts. This new center would involve restructuring AV from an academic point of view, to facilitate faculty teaching and scholarship as well as student projects. BC is currently behind in such ventures and a new facility will be very expensive.

In a somewhat parallel manner, Rita wants Academic Technology Services to become an open center for faculty to go to with electronic projects. This would not be a production facility like the Media Technology Services, but would operate more like project management and consulting, working collaboratively with libraries and production people, designers, photographers and so on. It might also seek grants to help faculty with these projects.

Finally, Rita reported on the beginning of a new stage of computer recycling beginning next year, with a projected 25% to receive new computers in 2005, 50% in 2006, and 25% in 2007, then 33% each year thereafter.

In the latter half of the meeting, Bill Petri, as part of the topic-based freshman seminar subcommittee, reported on teaching applications for the fall debut of these seminars. The committee unanimously agreed to approve all six proposals, with the proviso that the instructors and eventual course content be overseen by the subcommittee consisting of Bill, Sue Barrett, and Ellen Winner. The instructors for these new topic-based seminars will attend the June workshop for all Cornerstone faculty, attending its relevant sessions and possibly one or more designed specifically for the topic-based seminar faculty. The sub-committee will advise and evaluate course preparation and syllabi over the summer, perhaps suggesting guidelines for the length of reading assignments. They will also de-brief these instructors in December, and report to the UCT in January, possibly inviting students in the seminars to speak to the UCT as well.

Issues still to be addressed: How to oversee and run this program over the long term? How to conduct training in advising if we were to expand this to other schools besides A & S? Academic Vice President Jack Neuhauser, who joined us for the last

part of the meeting, suggested we consider new topic-based freshman seminars for the spring term as well. He also promised to bring proposals from the undergraduate education planning task force to us for discussion.

Fred Yen volunteered to go through the online dates for the TAM and TAME grants. A need to advertise the TAME grants better in the fall was raised.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Joe Hughes