Academic Computing Steering Committee (AcCSC)

Minutes of Meetings:
March 13, 2002; Steinmetz 237, 2:45 pm

Present: Batson, Bauman, Boyer, Keller, Klein, McFadden, Sener, Traver

Review of last meeting’s minutes (because of the time change, too few people were available to hold a meeting on March 6).

The Committee notes with great appreciation the many years of service of Prof. John Boyer from the Biology, who is stepping down as he begins his sabbatical. John has been on the Committee in at least three incarnations, and his institutional memory will continue to be called on, we are sure. Beginning next term, the new Division 3 representative will be Prof. Kathryn Lesh from the Mathematics Dept.

1. Five Colleges Media Fair. Diane, Dave, and Mary attended the 5-Colleges Media Fair at U. Mass-Amherst. Diane reported on several interesting projects; she also noted that there had been some technical glitches in the presentations -- something for us to be alert for on May 23.

Diane mentioned in particular a presentation by William Moebius (Comparative Literature — University of Massachusetts) on “Poetry and Collaborative Multi-Campus Learning”, the keynote address by Gregory Crane, Professor of Classics at Tufts University on “Reading in a Digital Age”; and Wayne Gagnon giving an overview of the U-Mass Academic Computing’s New Faculty Video Lab.
2. **IBM Day.** IBM day on March 8 is reviewed in *Union's Chronicle*.

3. **Web advising.** Upgrades and fixes continue on the Web Advising system. These should be complete early in the Spring term. We are still awaiting further word on the progress of the e-Portfolio initiative with Connecticut College.

4. **Intellectual Property Rights.** On Wednesday, March 20, Tom M., Doug, and Christie Sorum met with the College lawyer to review the draft Intellectual Property Rights policy. Tom. M. will make minor revisions suggested by the lawyer, and bring it back to this committee. Then he and Doug will take the document to the FEC. After that point it will be brought to the trustees and if approved, will become campus policy. There remains the task of drafting sample letters of agreement.

5. **Funding opportunities.** There remains course development and other technology funding available from several sources, including *Union's Mellon grant*, *Union's Keck grant*, and several initiatives set up by Mellon through NITLE (the National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education), and CET (the Center for Education Technology). (See this RFP, a Word document.) This committee should help Union take advantage of these opportunities.

Diane has also added our name to a FIPSE grant being submitted by Mike Roy at Wesleyan to develop "learning objects" in the sciences which could be shared.

6. **Patriot Act.** Dave C. would like to initiate a discussion of the implications for College records policies of the 2001 Patriot Act. Under the Act, the College could be required to turn over extensive records on the digital activities of faculty, staff, and students. We agreed that it would be wise to learn what other higher education institutions are doing, and to ask for guidance from the College lawyer. [CNET has one article](http://minerva.union.edu/accsc/Archives/Minutes-2002-03...) on the privacy implications of
the Act. A search on "Patriot Act" reveals many other opinions.

meeting adjourned at 3:45
Last meeting of the term. Next meeting Spring term, TBA.

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