

Instructional Technology Advisory Committee minutes from 4/16/03

1. Update on SPSS/SAS: The committee has been looking into a networked version of SPSS and/or SAS statistical software. This has the potential to offer significant savings over the purchase of licenses for individual PCs.

Dr. Ianno reported the results of a survey on faculty interest in SPSS and SAS. Thirteen faculty members currently have a SPSS license and 10 are interested in the networked version. Dr. Ianno said that President Hanes is willing to fund the networked version of the software, so individual departments would no longer need to purchase it. We decided on a networked license (3 concurrent users) for SPSS. This should result in substantial savings. The price of 13 stand-alone SPSS licenses would be \$1950/year (13 * \$150), whereas the networked version should provide the same functionality at a cost of about \$300/year (3 * \$100). There is not as much interest in SAS, with the survey indicating 2 current faculty licenses and 2 faculty members interested in using the networked version of SAS.

2. Policy on faculty and departmental web pages: The committee began considering current policy on web site appearance at the last meeting. Svetlana Peltsverger pointed us to the web policy statement, which is available at <http://www.gsw.edu/~oiit/policies/webpolicy.html>. This document states that departmental web pages should have color schemes that are complimentary to the GSW home page and include the GSW logo. Chuck Lawson noted that complimentary refers to opposite color pairs (e.g., red-green), so the description of color schemes as "complimentary" to the GSW home page is probably an error. Anthony Ianno said that the GSW web pages will undergo a review this Summer. They are especially interested in finding and updating pages that are out of date. The committee is still not quite sure if all departmental pages must be specifically approved by University Relations before being placed on the web. It appears that it is sufficient to simply follow the guidelines expressed in the web policy.

The general consensus for faculty web pages is that the faculty should have the academic freedom to make their pages look the way they want, provided that the pages are professional and in good taste. This agrees with the viewpoint expressed by Cathy Rozmus and Steve Batson in an email on this subject.

3. Status of the technology representative program: Anthony Ianno said that OIIT will begin training representatives from each department this Summer on some basic issues in computer maintainance. Some of this information will be web based for reference purposes. These individuals will assist others in their departments with technology issues. Additional training may be available during the planning week at the beginning of the Fall semester. Royce Hackett noted that OIIT is already planning sessions on using Word and other Microsoft Office applications for planning week.

4. Expenditure of year-end technology money: The method for spending lottery money for technology purposes was discussed. Vera Weiskopf was unaware that the call for technology proposals had gone out. Some committee members were not entirely sure how this process works. Some members noted that they did not know that past proposals had been funded until the equipment actually arrived. The current procedure for spending technology funds from the lottery money may have some shortcomings, but the committee did not propose any improvements on the existing process.

This is the final ITAC meeting for the 2002-2003 academic year.

Members in attendance: Nancy Morris, Bob Herrington, Royce Hackett, Gary Fisk, Carl Mueller, Anthony Ianno, Sam Peavy, Vera Weiskopf, and Chuck Lawson