

Minutes of the second meeting of the Computer Services Committee held
Thursday, January 27, 2005, 11:00am, LeT 202

Present: Susan Simmons, Kristin Steele, Donna Gibson, Keith Plemmons, Debbie Fisher, Rod Welch, Mark DelMastro, Kyle Sinisi, Les Cohn, Peter Greim, Nancy Bell-Hundemer, and Gene Creson

Current membership is comprised of one non-voting member (Rod Welch-ITS; proxy: Debbie Fisher) and ten voting members: Nancy Bell-Hundemer (PSYC), Frances Frame (ENGL), Peter Greim (MACS), Keith Plemmons (CIVL), Susan Simmons (BADM), Kirstin Steele (LIBR), Kyle Sinisi (HIST), Les Cohn (MACS), Mark DelMastro (MLNG), and Donna Gibson (EDUC). Five voting members constitute a quorum.

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks by Chair:

Keith Plemmons called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to LeTellier Hall. The agenda was reviewed and the meeting time limit established. Keith summarized the purpose of the meeting by presenting the following request from Faculty Council:

ITS only supports Gateway computers. Why?

That is the question you are to ask. Please make a recommendation to Faculty Council as to whether that is sensible or else whether ITS should provide support for other computers too.

One possibility would be to provide limited support for other sorts of computers.

I think that the specific issue that was driving this matter was a refusal by ITS to put some software on a non-gateway computer belonging to a member of the Faculty. It might be helpful to ask Prof. Britz about the matter.

Bill Woolsey

Before Rod Welch's presentation of the ITS policies and drafting a recommendation, Keith asked the committee members to identify the criteria for determining if an ITS computer policy is "sensible." The responses included, ROI in terms of budget, time and available resources; type of research money; and who purchased the computer (ITS, department, or individual faculty member).

2. Rod Welch Presentation:

Rod Welch made a presentation on the ITS policy regarding the purchase and maintenance of computers. Rod provided a quick synopsis of eighteen years of computer support at The Citadel. He emphasized the transition of computer standards over time to the current Gateway standard. Also, Rod identified a

major purpose of the standard: to provide better service at the least cost. Rod also described the purchasing procedures for computer assets and the fact that when a non-Gateway request was submitted for approval, he would not disapprove the request, but inform the purchaser that their computer would not be supported by ITS and that the ITS commitment for support of non-Gateway computers would be limited to a working network connection.

Exceptions to the current policy are granted for computer purchases where software is "bundled" with hardware. For example, a department or faculty member might be required to purchase a non-Gateway computer in order to obtain the associated software. In this case, approval for purchase would identify this computer as an ITS supported machine.

General discussion followed.

3. Recommendation:

By unanimous vote of all voting members, the ITS computer policy was determined to be sensible.

Keith Plemmons is to draft a recommendation for Faculty Council regarding the sensibility of the ITS computer policy. After approval of the recommendation by the committee and forwarded to Faculty Council, it will become part of the minutes of this meeting.

4. Old Business:

Computer distribution. Thirty faculty submitted proposals to receive a new computer. Kyle Sinisi and his committee reviewed and ranked the proposals. The top twenty were selected to receive new computers. The majority of these computers have either been delivered or installed. Keith Plemmons will contact the faculty members who submitted a proposal, but did not receive one.

5. New Business:

A meeting of the full committee will be scheduled for February to review the procedure and criteria for next year's computer proposal.

No more business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50.

Attch:

1. Recommendation to Faculty Council regarding ITS computer policy.

Attachment 1

**Computer Services Committee Recommendation
Approved February 1, 2005**

The Computer Services Committee recommends that the ITS policy regarding the purchase and support of Gateway computers be maintained in its present form and intent. We find the policy to be sensible. It has proven itself to be a good policy in keeping support costs low and the quality of services high. Also, we find the policy to be flexible in providing support for non-Gateway computers, where the departments or faculty members are required to purchase "bundled" software and hardware systems.