Minutes of February 2, 2006 Meeting

Present: Chair Tom McQuaide, Ide Katims, Erik Ekman, Steve Rant, Becky Adae, Jon Lewit, Ya Wang, Aaron Isabelle, Jun Lin, Stan Kudzin, Ping Jin, Emily Puthoff, Justin Holmes (student rep.)

I. The meeting convened at 11:30AM.

II. Faculty criticism of Academic Computing response
A negative email from a faculty member was discussed. First clarified was the confusion between the roles of Academic Computing versus Computer Services: Academic Computing serves students whereas Computer Services assists faculty and staff. The Help Desk for faculty and staff has been understaffed lately, but there were recently 1.5 new hires for that unit. Lewit will request the Fac/Staff Help Desk to research the number of outstanding calls and response time and send a letter of explanation to the professor.

III. SCAP review process
With 12 proposals received the question arose whether to follow last year’s model of reviewing them over the course of 3 two-hour meetings or review all of them at once on a Saturday. Committee members chose the former option and will meet on consecutive Thursdays, 11:00AM – 12:30PM starting 2/16. Three to four proposals will be discussed at each meeting. The deadline for comments will be mid March, preferably F, 3/17.

Lewit stated he would leave the proposal review process to the rest of the committee, but he did mention several of his concerns:
  1) Small numbers of students who will benefit (some of the science proposals)
  2) students versus non-students benefiting (the museum’s iPod proposal)
  3) prior approval of space by administration (Theatre Arts proposal for new room)

IV. Banner transition
Lewit reported on the status of the approximate 2-year procedure. Two programmers from Computing Services are working exclusively on Banner to implement the program. By the end of summer the campus will see the first part, the portal called “Luminis.” It will handle the interactive features of “my.newpaltz.com,” community information and the campus calendar. Next fall, the Banner builders will create courses with the Registrar. The campus will be totally off the old system by Fall ’07.

As Banner staff is still defining the SUNY New Paltz quirks, e.g., PI card procedures, course limits for non-matriculated students, and conducting a great amount of training, Johanna D’Aleo is seeking faculty for input as well as participation. Associate Deans and Kristine Backhaus are already involved. Members of the committee inquired what
they could do to assist the process. Lewit’s response was that the transition was going to occur so quickly; there would probably be few opportunities when he could deliberate with the committee.

IV. Student issues
Student representative Holmes addressed many concerns some of which were related to policy issues rather than problems with the current amount and sophistication of technology on campus.

Students’ wish list:
- more wireless environments
- faculty use of facebooks as a pedagogical tool
- student evaluation of advisors online
- SEI’s online
- adequate useload for PDAs and cellphones with WiFi (currently inadequate on the 3rd and 4th floors of the SUB)
- expansion of the Wiki Paltz website that was uploaded last summer
- more student awareness of and clarity about Banner

At this point the committee agreed to explain the campus wireless plan, discuss Wiki Paltz, facebooks, and address the matter of deadzones in classrooms.

V. The meeting adjourned at 12:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Adae
Secretary, *pro tempore*