

NOTES FROM THE FACET MEETING

Thursday, March 6, 2003, at 4:00 pm in 238 MacNider

Members present: Reid (Co-Chair), Minchew (Co-Chair), McCartney, Keller, McLendon, Reisner, Schmidt, Tresolini, Juliano

LCME Accreditation Survey

Ms. Juliano (OIS) referred to the LCME Accreditation Survey Database 2003-04, Section V, Question ER-7 (a) and (b) regarding educational resources, specifically instructional facilities and information resources. She commented that the survey questions were very specific and were read very carefully before answering. Copies of the questions and responses were distributed (and will be made available on the FACET web site). Dr. McCartney suggested that committee members review the document and provide feedback to Ms. Juliano.

Comparative Specs for Laptops for Next Year

Ms. Juliano (OIS) reported on the [costs and specifications](#) of the laptops from the low end (\$2168) to the high end (\$3238). In the past, the OIS office has not gone with the low end, but in this year's offerings there is not much difference in basic technology. The high-end laptop has a lot of extra bells and whistles that the students don't need. Ms. Juliano called attention to two first year students who did not purchase the prescribed laptops this year. It was agreed that all students would be required to purchase the prescribed laptops next year, especially now that tests would be taken on-line. After further discussion a vote was taken, and the committee voted unanimously to recommend purchase of the low-end laptop. Students will be notified by email that they will be required to purchase the prescribed low-end laptops.

Technology Fees

Ms. Juliano (OIS) briefed the committee on the student technology fees. In the past, those fees had been part of the OIS budget and were used to support student computing needs as recommended by FACET. This year those fees (\$84,000) were to be subtracted from the OIS budget and put back in the budget but assigned for student support. Michelle Phillips, School of Medicine Administration Fiscal Affairs, said that these fees are to be used strictly for student support. After a strong defense of this year's budget by OIS, Fiscal Affairs agreed to postpone the reallocation until next year's budget. Effects of this change include closing of the Berryhill computing lab (as discussed at last month's meeting—network ports will remain for student use). Mr. McLendon (HSL) pointed out that the Health Sciences Library would be available in 2004.

Virtual Microscopy

Dr. Reisner (Pathology) discussed the possibility of pathology shouldering the burden of purchasing the hardware and perhaps purchasing the server, which would be maintained by OIS and a fee for service charged to other departments who use the technology. He reported that the FACET sub-committee had looked into different specifications. He discussed the costs of various purchases and emphasized that these would be significant. Ms. Juliano (OIS) commented on the importance of the purchases meeting OIS specifications. Dr. Minchew (Orthopaedics) brought up the importance of considering the maintenance costs in these configurations. Mr. Schmidt (OIS) commented that maintenance would run about 750.00 per month or around \$9,000/year. He pointed out that there would have to be a separate backup system; the current system can't handle the new purchase. The backup system would cost approximately \$25,000. The server maintenance fee would run about \$15,000 per year. Dr. McCartney weighed on the costs of maintenance and said that it would be very difficult to generate that kind of money annually. Mr. McLendon (HSL) commented that they now had the technology and could possibly work out an arrangement with other departments. Mr. Reid suggested that the FACET subcommittee work out the details of the overall costs, various options for fee charges, maintenance costs, etc. and report back at the next committee meeting scheduled in April. He also suggested that the University of Iowa costs be spelled out as one alternative and that a visit to Iowa might be worthwhile before any decision is made. Mr. Reisner expressed an interest in going.

Other business was deferred.