

Minutes of Student Computer Ownership (SCO) Committee Meeting on 04-Nov-2008

Attending: Lori Critz, Miles Edson, Jon Giffin, Andy Jones, Lisa Spence, Alex Taubman, Bruce Walker

Absent or Excused: Christos Alexopoulos, Monty Hayes, Jarek Rossignac, Nicholas Sondej

We discussed OIT's interest in ceasing support for desktop computers. In the past year, only 35 out of thousands of requests were for desktops, and the Tech Store sold zero desktops. OIT is unable to fully secure desktops at their repair site. Since the SCO laptop requirement only went into effect this year, we suggested to OIT that they continue desktop support but revisit the matter again next year after housing's student computer usage survey results are available.

Maria Hunter, the manager of OIT's support and resource center, gave the committee a tour of the OIT facilities for student support.

Lisa reported on preliminary conversations with IT staff in CoA and CoE regarding a move to faculty-specific software needs. The IT staff discouraged this approach due to expected low faculty adoption. Lisa has instead started to accumulate lists of required software from college-level staff, including academic coordinators.

We discussed possible methods for centralized presentation of software needs, including management by SCO, OIT, or the bookstore.

We discussed augmenting the Barnes & Noble textbook database to include software titles. Alex reported that the database is created centrally by B&N corporate; inclusion of software may require software alterations at corporate.

Action items for next meeting:

1. Investigate the feasibility of including software requirements in the B&N database (Alex).
2. Continue collection of software requirements (Lisa).
3. Develop first draft of the 2009 SCO brochure (Jon).

Next meeting to be held Tuesday, November 25.