2012 Student Computer Ownership (SCO) Committee

Minutes for Meeting on 9-12-2012

Attending: Critz, Lori - Library; Edson, Miles - ResNet/Aux. Serv; Kim, Hyesoon - CoC; McDaniel, Steven - ResNet/Aux. Serv.; Myers, Dale - OIT; Peter Nguyen - Barnes & Noble @ GT (for Alex Taubman); Potter, Steve - BME; Walker, Bruce - Psych

Discussion Items:

1. Called to order at 4:05 pm

2. Freshmen Survey – compilation of data from 2005 - 2011
   a. Miles Edson (Aux. Serv./Housing) presented aggregate data to SCO committee
   b. MACs have continued to gain momentum and comprise about 1/3 of the GT freshmen laptop purchases
   c. The number of devices (e.g. laptops, tablets, iPads, internet capable phones, Bluetooth DVD players, Xbox, etc.) held by freshmen has risen steadily from the average of one for 80% of freshmen in 2005; for 2011 only 12% had a single device
   d. For email, about 50% of the students use Gmail; only 21% use Zimbra regularly
   e. Almost 100% use wired access in the dorms; usually in conjunction with another device
   f. 96% of freshmen have smart phones, but they are not required or supported

3. Election of Chair for 2012/2013
   - Steve Potter nominated Lori Critz to continue as Chair; seconded by Bruce Walker
   - There were no additional nominations
   - Voice vote conducted for election
   - Lori Critz will serve as 2012/2013 Chair

4. Discussion of SCO website (http://sco.gatech.edu/)
   a. GT/OIT has requested that the site be moved to an approved GT template – additional revisions will be made to style/format and content
   b. HOME section of site should describe the SCO Committee and also what else can be found on the site and on the Student Computer Ownership Guide
   c. Format suggestions
      - inset HW & SW requirements as subsets of Student Guide page
      - provide documents as an ARCHIVE of the Committee
      - utilize language indicating readers can “Download the PDF for ...”
d. Possibility was raised on including specific requirements for each college
   - This information is not available currently, and is out of the scope of the Committee
   - If OIT or others collect this information, the SCO site would provide links

e. Suggestion was made to include more detailed information on MAC vs. PC systems

f. Site needs to include more information on the SCO Committee
   - a definition of the committee or explanation of why we exist (faculty governance/elected faculty committee)
   - purpose statement pointing to our role in informing OIT (in consultation with ResNet, OIT, Barnes & Noble @ GT) what will need to be supported in terms of student computer usage

h. Site could include pictures of GT students with computers

i. Need to clarify language - indicating a laptop is the required device, and it is often termed a notebook (not a netbook)

j. Recommendation was made to include a parents page
   - link to SCO FAQ
   - Links to Tech Stuff recommendations for purchases and an introduction written by B & N @ GT (Alex Taubman)
   - Provide additional guidance as appropriate


   a. Based on major changes possibly looming for late 2013 or 2014, the Committee will proceed with a minor revision cycle for 2013

   b. OIT has requested this document/policy be completed earlier than in the past – and available to them in Feb., if possible

   c. Revision cycle will need to begin in October, 2012 to complete by Feb.

   d. Lori will schedule the first meeting to discuss revisions in October

   e. Committee will investigate making a recommendation (perhaps via Vice Provost’s Office) to upgrade the ‘financial consideration’ amount allowed (currently $1500) for computer purchases
   - ACTION ITEM: Peter & Alex will spec options for basic systems (MAC and PC) to include in the recommendation

6. Review of minutes from 2-15-12 meeting

   a. Motion to approve – Miles Edson

   b. Second – Steven McDaniel

   c. Approved by voice vote

7. Adjourned 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Lori Critz (Student Computer Ownership Committee, Chair)