2011/2012 Student Computer Ownership (SCO) Committee

Minutes for Meeting on 2-15-2012

Attending: Alexopoulos, Christos  ISyE; Critz, Lori Library; Edson, Miles Aux. Serv; McDaniel, Steven Aux. Serv.; Myers, Dale OIT; Neu, Richard Executive Board Liaison; Walker, Bruce Psych

Discussion Items:

1. Called to order at 4:05 pm

2. Tablet & Tablet-like devices
   a. Introduction of guest presenter – David McDuffie, GT Library Systems Department
   b. David demonstrated Windows 8 Operating System, which will be released soon, and available on laptops, tablets, etc. after August 2012 -- this is a TOUCH First interface
      i. Apps will be used for Word, etc. - most applications used will be emulated
      ii. This may have profound implications for SCO for 2013/2014 if it is ‘mainstreamed’ (* This OS may not be widely accepted and it is too soon to tell)
      iii. Slate devices with Windows 8 could be used as a computer if added to a docking station with keyboard -- the specs of the hardware will determine whether this becomes an ‘acceptable’ device for GT students as their primary computing system
   c. Additional discussion on iPads, Galaxy Tablets and other slate devices

3. Freshmen Survey – conducted in fall 2011
   a. Miles Edson (Aux. Serv./Housing) will send to SCO Committee for review
   b. 96% of freshmen have smart phones, but they are not required or supported
   c. Most freshmen have 2 ‘devices’ (e.g. laptops, tablets, iPads, internet capable phones, Bluetooth DVD players, Xbox, etc.)
   d. By 2013 this will increase to multiple devices and will have implications for Student Computer Ownership Guide recommendations

4. Discussion of issues for 2011/2012
   a. V Lab (Virtual Lab) and Virtualization – use will continue to increase; implications for needed hardware/software may change in 2012/2013
   b. File sharing issues – legal issues are outside scope of this Committee; bandwidth issues/internet connections limit this to a great degree
c. Tablets and similar devices – similar recommendations for 2012/2013 as prior year in Student Computer Ownership policy; one limiting factor is lack of client for WIMBA videoconferencing application for tablets, iPads, etc.; Android tablets have significant issues and the FAQ needs to clearly state they are not an acceptable substitute for a laptop

d. Alternative form factors (e.g. iPads, iPods, other internet capable cell phones) – future potential to support research & learning at Georgia Tech; SCO Committee will continue to monitor

e. Emulation software – need to revise recommendations for MAC users to include a free application, Virtual Box, which like the other emulation software requires purchase of Microsoft Office

f. Docking station labs at GT – future opportunities may exist; future may see increase in thin clients with acceptable emulation software that allows access to all needed applications; for present, need to list DONGLES as peripherals/equipment for 2012/2013 for all systems

   a. Based on major changes possibly looming for 2013 or 2014, the Committee will proceed with a minor revision cycle for 2012
   b. SCO Committee will use a T-Square site to share drafts
      i. Lori Critz will set this up and will add in members
      ii. Committee members need to send GT log-in to Lori Critz to be added to site
      iii. Suggested revisions & additions can be posted as numbered & dated versions, with initials of member posting (e.g. Ver2_2-17-12_LC)
      iv. ‘Track changes’ feature in Word or highlighting of text can be used to clearly delineate suggested changes
      v. Revisions and additions need to be posted by 3-25-12
      vi. SCO Committee will meet, if necessary, to discuss options and accept revisions
   c. Dale Myers (OIT) will develop (in collaboration with David McDuffie (GT Library/Systems Dept.)) a revised Hardware & Software requirements list – this will be posted for review on the T-Square site – the Committee can comment/discuss and suggest changes
      i. For Processor, the recommendation will be: Dual core or Quad core, equivalent to i5 or better
      ii. Primary Hard Drive will be listed as: 128 GB or larger INTERNAL STORAGE
      iii. Windows Compatibility (for MAC): will include Virtual Box as another option
   d. Dale Myers (OIT) will generate some statistics on T-Square use by various systems (Windows machines, MACs, tablets, cell phones, etc.) for our review
   e. OIT recommends we include information on Jacket Guardian system – a GPS system that functions like an e911 system with added demographics and timers that can be added to provide information to GT Police in an emergency situation
f. OIT also recommends addition of GPS software to requirements as students can then lock or wipe their hard drive remotely, if needed

6. Review of minutes from 9-15-11 meeting
   a. Motion to approve – Miles Edson
   b. Second – Dale Myers
   c. Approved by voice vote

7. Adjourned 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Lori Critz (Student Computer Ownership Committee, 2011/2012 Chair)