

College of Education and Allied Professions

Educational Technology Committee Meeting

February 11, 2005

2:30 – 3:30p

Killian 218

Members present: Coulter (Ben); Houghton; LeBaron, Frady; Dabney; Jamir; Chapman; Orr

Minutes:

1. Committee reviewed and approved minutes from January 14 meeting.
2. Bob Orr and Ben Coulter gave a technology hardware update: Faculty and Staff replacement computers have been installed in all but 10 offices (PC platforms) and the remaining PCs should be installed the week of February 14. Macs are on order and should arrive on campus in the next few weeks.

The CEAP, with financial backing from the Ed Tech division, will be installing four additional demo classrooms in Killian (KL111 & 117) and in Reid (108 & 110).

There is an opportunity for a 50-50 match for technology funds with hopes to purchase a fifth demo classroom. Currently, the CEAP has generated \$3800 and Ben will work with the dean's office to find the remaining \$1200 necessary for a \$5,000 match. Other priorities are laptops for faculty/staff checkout.

Bob Orr, Bob Houghton, and Ben Coulter were appointed to a sub-committee to prioritize college technology needs and present them to the committee for review as a permanent standing list that will guide technology acquisition during the upcoming year. The sub-committee intends to meet during the week of February 14 and report back to the committee at the next meeting.

3. John LeBaron provided an update to the committee on the first meeting of the CEAP WebCT support group. From all reactions, the meeting was a success and faculty indicated that this is something to be continued. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 21 at noon (Hunter Library E-Classroom).
4. John LeBaron and Ben Coulter then lead a brief overview of the April CEAP Online Passages Event to be held at NCCAT on Friday, April 8. Committee members were encouraged to spread the word about the event to colleagues and Ben/John/Barbara Chapman will work to create a hard-copy flyer to be distributed during the week of February 14, 2005. Laura Chapman suggested that valuable data could and should be collected as a result of the event in the form of a list of proceedings and exit survey. John LeBaron and Ben agreed and will incorporate this into the planning of the event.

5. Ben Coulter shared a brief update from his meeting at the UNC Teacher Education Technology Council he attended in Chapel Hill on February 1, 2005. Ben reported that two primary issues were addressed: NC state licensure requirements for technology (specifically the technology portfolio) and portfolio software. According to Alisa Chapman, Vice President for University-School Programs, the NC State Board of Education (SBE) had approved a group of recommendations to eliminate barriers to initial licensure, including the technology portfolio, however, the SBE was scheduled to review and approve each individual recommendation at subsequent meetings, so it was uncertain when this particular recommendation on the technology portfolio eliminate would be voted on and implemented. Alisa was to check with Kathy Sullivan for more information.

The council also discussed software used throughout the UNC system to students and candidates to create electronic portfolios. Two platforms were discussed: LiveText and TaskStream. LiveText was being used at UNC Chapel Hill and NC A & T. Chapel Hill reported that they had a fair amount of technical problems w/LiveText during the 2003-2004 academic year, however, they didn't encounter any technical problems during the 2004-05 AY; this was attributed to LiveText technical support improving. The chief concern was that potential clients of LiveText need to consider that there is a learning curve for users and there is a need to have user-end support for faculty & students on-site (for training and follow-up assistance).

UNC-Greensboro, Appalachian State, UNC-Charlotte, and others are using a TaskStream as their portfolio development application. They require teacher education candidates to purchase the software during their sophomore or junior year for around \$78. This fee grants each individual a three-year license to use the software, which runs off a TaskStream hosted server. UNCG reported excellent technical support and product stability and accessibility, along with a willingness by the company to accommodate specific curricular needs as identified by each program. Additionally, when an institution contracts with TaskStream for student purchases, each faculty member receives free access to the product.

6. Ben Coulter then passed around a handout that listed potential stakeholders for development of the CEAP IT strategic plan. Committee members were asked to visit each stakeholder online and consider the ones most critical for our strategic plan to anchor and create a baseline for development. Ben also mentioned that he would like to invite Dr. Troy Barksdale from University Planning to spend a few minutes with the committee at the next meeting to discuss the strategic planning process. At the next meeting, Ben will appoint a sub-committee to begin drafting a strategic plan and subsequently share with the committee for consideration.
7. Other items: Committee members shared items as follows: **John LeBaron** reminded the committee of the upcoming IT visiting scholar visit the week of March 14 and encouraged committee members to both attend and encourage other colleagues to attend. **Bob Houghton** commented that the E-classroom at UNC-A Karpen Hall (036) was in the process of having firewire cards installed in each student computer

for use in digital video editing. **Bob Orr** shared that the \$1.5 million networking upgrade for ResNet was almost completed providing 100MB port access to each pillow in the residence halls and the \$500K academic project was also near completion (faculty/staff computers and demo classroom upgrades). Bob mentioned the opportunity to make Killian completely wireless. Ben suggested that the committee make this a formal recommendation at the next meeting. Bob concluded by mentioning that there is an advisory committee forming to discuss and recommend academic applications of fiber optic connectivity in WNC. The committee will be an advocate for educational uses of broadband connectivity. Dean Dougherty has appointed Ben Coulter to serve on the committee as the CEAP representative. **Ben Coulter** updated the committee on plans for a SMART Board training session hosted by Cherokee Central Schools for reservation teachers on Wednesday, March 16. Ben will update the committee as plans become formalized. Ben also mentioned the opportunity for the chairs of all WCU technology committees to periodically get together and share initiatives and proceedings from each committee. Bob Orr volunteered to get the group together for lunch and to facilitate the discussion.

8. Ben told the committee that he will send an e-mail out the week of February 14 to schedule the next committee meeting.
9. Meeting was adjourned at 3:45p.

Report submitted by Ben Coulter, February 14, 2005