COMMITTEE ON COMPUTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Annual Report, 2001-02

To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

Committee Membership

Charles McDowell served as chair of the Senate Committee on Computing and Telecommunications (CCT) for 2001-2002. Yin-Wong Cheung (Economics), Gary Glatzmaier (Earth Sciences), Vicki Gonzalez-Pagani (Language), Dom Massaro (Psychology), Alex Pang (Computer Science), Beth Stevens (Art), and Lisa Sloan (Earth Sciences) served on the committee. Patrick LeCuyer represented CATS at CCT meetings. There was no student representative this year.

CCT advised the campus on a number of communications and computing technology issues during the past year. This advice generally was in the form of verbal and email communication with CATS staff and with the ITC administrative committee. CCT strongly endorses the recommendations that were made by ITC during the past year. We encourage interested colleagues to visit the ITC web page for details about the past years accomplishments (http://planning.ucsc.edu/pac/itc.html).

Due to the current budget problems and hiring freeze, CCT's recommendation from last year for the hiring of a Vice-Provost for Information Technology has not yet been followed. However, from discussions with Provost Simpson, we have been assured that Larry Merkley (chair of ITC and unofficial campus chief technology officer) will be retained as a consultant for another year.

The following is a brief summary of the major topics addressed by CCT during the past year.

Vice Provost for Information Technology

CCT recommended the establishment of a Vice Provost for Information Technology for the campus. Furthermore, we recommended that the VP-IT should have direct budgetary responsibility for a significant portion of the campus' IT budget. Specifically, we recommended that initially at least Media Services and CATS be placed directly under the VP-IT.

Network Blocking

CCT reviewed and endorsed a CATS policy and procedure for blocking network access for computers that pose a security or other risk to campus computing or information (http://www2.ucsc.edu/cats/sc/help/policies/blockproc.shtml).

Academic Information System

CCT endorsed moving ahead as quickly as possible with the implementation of a new Academic Information System. Unfortunately the vendor originally selected was bought out by a competitor and the product that UCSC had selected was cancelled. A new vendor has subsequently been selected and the implementation of the new system is continuing to move forward (http://ais.ucsc.edu/).

Email

CCT reviewed the report from the Email Advisory Team to ITC. We are encouraged that some progress is being made, but the pace is rather slow. A key aspect of this system is the creation of a campus-wide electronic directory service. It is our understanding that some progress is being made. Specifically, beginning Fall 2002, all new students will automatically be assigned a campus email address. CCT recommended that CATS move forward with adopting username@ucsc.edu as the campus standard (in place of username@cats.ucsc.edu).

Other Issues

Although no specific recommendations have yet been made or implemented, CCT also spent considerable time discussing the campus' web services, network rates, and began a discussion of a requiring every student on campus to have a computer.

After two years in existence, we continue to be very satisfied with the way the ITC is functioning. A number of important issues have been, and are being, addressed by ITC.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMITTEE ON COMPUTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

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