

Engineering Student Technology Committee (ESTC):

Meeting minutes for March 6, 2002 - Engineering Conference Room - 8:00am

Present: Tim Feather (ME), Prof. Fitzhorn (ME), Prof. Garcia (CE),  
Kevin Harris (ME), Eric Mui (ECE), Mark Ritschard (ENS),  
Steve Sanborn (CE), David Wiegandt (ECE), Prof. Wilmsen (ECE)

Absent: Prof. Dandy (ChemE), Prof. Gessler (Associate Dean for Academic  
Affairs), Jennifer Meints (intra), JP Murray (ECE), Jenny Po (ChemE),  
Marcel Zibognon (CE)

- Corrections to previous meetings minutes (2-13-01)

\*none\*.

- Announcement: Plasma Display is in Design Studio

Ritschard announced the installation of the NEC Plasma Display in Studio 6 of the Lockheed Martin Design Studio. Plans are to connect the display to a monitor switch that will allow projection from any computer in the studio. It will be connected to the switch as soon as the appropriate cables arrive.

Mui reported that some students have expressed concern about the cost of the monitor. Ritschard indicated that although the tech fund paid for the entire display, credits from insurance funds and the sale of old equipment offset the actual cost to the budget.

- Sun smart cards

Wiegandt gave an overview of the smart cards. They are used in conjunction with the Sun Rays and are used to keep a session running on the server while the student is away. When the smart card is inserted in any Sun Ray, the session will return.

Ritschard reported that each card costs \$4.85 and could be sold through the Software Cellar for \$7.10. He also spoke with the university ID Card office to verify that disseminating the cards would create no university

conflicts.

Rather than have students purchase the cards through the Software Cellar, the committee decided to allow student organizations to sell the card. Ritschard will the first batch of cards (with an engineering logo, if possible).

- ESTC web pages

Ritschard distributed a page showing the current home page for the committee and solicited suggestions for what else should be posted. The following will be added to the pages as Ritschard is able: recently funded projects, smart card info, & committee minutes. Once the page is ready, it was suggested that a note be sent to students referring them to the web page.

- AERC lab computers

Tim Gonzales, ChemE technician, has requested that the committee consider including the Agricultural Engineering Research Center (AERC) student lab as a committee funded computer lab. There are currently about 5 computers in the lab, all of which are about 200Mhz Pentium II class. Prof. Garcia will check with the AgE students and Ritschard will show the budget impact when the budget is developed for next year.

- Print Quota Policy

Ritschard wanted to know what to do with remaining print quota credits after students graduate, suggesting that it could be reallocated to current students once the old accounts close. Garcia moved that the remaining credits be reallocated to current students after the waiting period for the account termination process. Harris seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Unallocated Budget

Ritschard indicated that, due to an increase in enrollment, there is \$30,000 of unallocated funding in this year's budget. A handout with the current budget was reviewed:

Advance Purchases		\$22,000
Assistive Technology		\$2,000
Business Expenses		\$2,000
Central Services & Systems		\$226,000
Laboratory Maintenance	\$20,000	
Network Maintenance	\$6,000	
Server Maintenance & Support	\$30,000	
College Lab Equip. Replacement	\$110,000	
Student Wages	\$60,000	
Department Allocations		\$118,000
Atmospheric Science	\$22,000	
Chemical Engineering	\$14,370	
Civil Engineering	\$31,890	
Electrical & Computer Engineering	\$14,590	
Intra-departmental majors	\$3,000	
Mechanical Engineering	\$32,150	

Scholarships	\$50,000
Strategic Initiatives	\$40,000
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Allocated Budget:	\$460,000
Total Collected Technology Charges	\$490,000
Unallocated Funds: \$30,000	

Ritschard indicated that ENS has two \$10,000 projects, only one of which can be funded with the current budget. The two projects are increased backup capacity for student file space and increased compute capacity on the Sunray server. Feather moved that \$10,000 of the unallocated funds be dedicated to the student file space backup project. Wiegandt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Wiegandt then explained that the college is looking for an electronic classroom to replace the AB Infill. If that happens, it has been proposed to turn the AB Infill into an Internet Cafe for engineering students. The Cafe could include a lounge area, a food bar area with computers for Internet access, a presentation area, a coffee/latte/hot chocolate machine, student committee vendors, corporate vendors, etc. Although no details have been developed, the committee felt that the idea had enough merit to allocate the remaining \$20,000 toward the Cafe, understanding that the entire amount may not be needed. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

- Other items

Wiegandt pointed out that the committee will completely turn over next year and said that he was willing to remain on the committee as chair if it made sense to provide some continuity. The reason for the complete turn-over involves unfilled positions, inactive membership, and graduating seniors in those positions that should carry through to next year. Ritschard moved and Sanborn seconded that Wiegandt be allowed to spend another term on the committee and act as chair for 2002-2003. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 27 at 8:00am.

Respectfully submitted by  
Mark Ritschard