QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMITTEE on COMPUTER RESOURCES
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 11th, 2006, at 2 PM

Committee members in attendance: Chair Thorsen, Profs. Altimari, Burleson, Ellerton, Grant, Mangra, Weber, IT Director Sherman

I.   IT Director Sherman articulated two clarifications regarding minutes from the last meeting, which took place on 4/27/06:

    A. In reference to Item V.J. from the minutes, concerning the blocked site request form: in practice, anonymous forms receive the lowest priority for responses from I.T.

    B. In reference to Item VI from the minutes, on the topic of faculty submission and maintenance of webpages: webpages must be submitted to the ACC to post, rather than I.T.

II.   Minutes were unanimously approved, with the above corrections/clarifications.

III.   Regarding Barracuda, Surveyor, and similar systemic hardware and software: I.T. Director Sherman reiterated his assertion that I.T. will always notify users if and when any software or protocols will be implemented that will affect faculty or staff workstations.

IV.   Concerning Item 3 of the Agenda: IT Director Sherman noted that only grades will be reported electronically, not attendance. The relevant software application is currently in use at Brooklyn College; one must contact appropriate parties there in order to find out more information about the program. Grades for the Fall 2006 semester will probably have the option of being reported online at QCC.

    A. Chair Thorsen intends to contact some colleagues at Brooklyn College to investigate the features and perceived positive and/or negative points of this program.

    B. Prof. Burleson noted that, if online attendance forms were to ever be adopted, such a mechanism would require faculty in effect to enter attendance records twice for each student: once on paper copies of attendance forms in class, and then by transcribing each 11x17 form online.

V.   I.T. is also working on implementing the latest version of Exchange.

VI.   There was not a quorum of CCR members representing the 2006-07 makeup of the committee. Thus, nominations and votes for chair and secretary could not take place.

VII.   Status of the Annual Report due on the Committee's work for 2005-06: 15 points were outlined by the Chair as contained on the meeting agenda. Chair Thorsen noted that a specific template must be followed to create this document. All 15 items were briefly discussed and elucidated. A few small changes were suggested, regarding syntax, and the order of topics for the report.

VIII.   The newsletter is posted both as a searchable .html document, and as a .pdf.

IX.   New Business.

    A. Prof. Ellerton related the following from Dave Moretti, on the subject of faculty that are not able to obtain access to Blackboard until the semester is underway: adjuncts can start out posting items on any external website; then, the adjunct can switch items to Blackboard once he/she has access to it for the new semester.

    B. Both Prof. Altimari and Dr. Moh have had misspelled versions of their names stored as usernames within Blackboard, thus thwarting access attempts.   It can be very frustrating and time-consuming for faculty to surmount this obstruction, as determining that misspelling is indeed the problem isn't always immediately apparent.

    C. Prof. Grant teaches a course on Blackboard for H.S. teachers in the summer. She requested that IT notify her if Blackboard or Tigermail were to be shut down for any extended period over the summer.

X.   Meeting was adjourned at 2:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Burleson

Secretary, CCR