

**QCC COMMITTEE on COMPUTER RESOURCES**  
**An Academic Senate Standing Committee**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
September 20, 2006, in M-127 at 2 PM

Attending: Sharon Ellerton, Robert Kueper, Nam JO Moh, Phyllis Pace, George Sherman, Jun Shin, George Thorsen, and Craig Weber.

Absent: Danny Mangra

1. Chair Thorsen introduced new committee members and explained means of communicating via discussion threads on the committee's Blackboard site.
2. IT Director Sherman explained rationale behind the "Barracuda Box", a website blocking appliance. Also, explained mechanism for faculty to challenge blocked web-sites. An e-mail was sent out in May explaining the procedure. So far, very few challenges. E-mail will be resent.
  - a. Blocks sites that load spyware, viruses.
  - b. Blocks peer-to-peer sites (ex. SKYPE) since those sites allow third parties behind the QCC computer firewalls.
  - c. Protects against "phishing" where ID information is stolen.
  - d. Frees up IT staff since removal of spyware from faculty PCs is very time consuming
  - e. Prof. Moh suggested monitoring of blocked list to prevent inappropriate blacklisting.
  - f. Chair Thorsen asked to include this as a topic in the next newsletter.
3. Prof. Moh expressed concern over slowness of campus computers. IT Director Sherman explained use exceeds bandwidth. The campus is waiting for completion of a city contract with Verizon that will increase connection speed 5 fold.
4. Report of IT Director Sherman:
  - a. Online Reporting of Grades – pilot model was presented to the Registrar. Program requires re-writing. May be ready by the end of the Fall semester.
  - b. Web-based attendance – Pilot may be ready in the spring semester. Attendance won't be linked to financial status (paid or unpaid) or number of absences.
5. Topic raised by Chair Thorsen:
  - a. Student Tech Fee and the use of the money were explained as well as the "hand-me down" process to faculty at the end of the 4 year cycle. Suggested the use of tech fee money be included as an article for the newsletter.
  - b. E- portfolios - discussed students putting their profiles onto server. Music students at QCC are in a pilot program as means to present their work. Questions were raised as to how many students are using E-portfolios and the ease of use. This is a potential newsletter topic.
  - c. Suggestion to determine computer based problems encountered by colleagues. Newsletter can include request for any well documented complaint.
  - d. Clarification of purchase and/or maintenance of hardware and software.
    - i. Software for classes should be through the department or can be obtained from ACC funded by tech fee. Software for personal research should be through the department.
    - ii. Hardware for faculty maintained by IT; for labs and CLTs maintained through the department
6. No new business. Meeting was adjourned.