ACADEMIC COMPUTER PLANNING COMMITTEE
Monday, January 19, 2004, 1:45-2:30 p.m.
Library Conference Room

PRESENT: Camille Aidala, Jerry Denno, Cathy Kirby, Scott Smith, Ed Wiltsie In absentia: Mary Carlson, Jim Feuerstein

Cathy reviewed several editing changes made to the ACPC Recommendation Report submitted to ITSC.

It was recommended that ACPC have representation from the Curriculum Committee in order to review the impact of technology upon curriculum.

Cathy reported on several issues addressed at the ITSC meeting:

Budgetary Process

In an effort to clarify the process of deciding which projects receive funding and make the process more equitable, several proposals were discussed. Tom Duran suggested a new decision making process for assessing technology proposals over 10K. Pertinent questions might include:

Does it support the college's mission?
Does it support teaching and learning?
Will it make things more efficient?
How many people will benefit

Peg Ferber presented a model from RIT which uses a ranking system and assigns points

Cathy suggested that the process be disseminated and shared with the entire Nazareth community and reiterated the importance of Dennis Silva's role in the decisioning making process. She mentioned that there was a possibility of ACPC presenting at the March ITSC meeting.

Student Skills Assessment

Several weeks ago Element K presented to faculty and ITS dept. members regarding the possibility of using their online tutorials and self-assessments to assessing student IT skills. Camille will follow up with Dave Booth from Element K to confirm that every ACPC committee member receives a username and password in order to log into Element K to review their course materials. Cathy pointed out that this could be "one resource among many" that students, faculty and staff utilize to enhance their technical skills. Camille will contact other colleges who use the system for benchmarking and feedback. Brenda Grammatico from ITS seems to feel that Element K courses are cost effective and she is pleased with the content.

Cathy Quinn requested that ACPC present a list of essential technology skills for all students to the Curriculum Committee for a review of how these skills dovetail with the Nazareth curriculum. Using the list of 10 IT goals for students from GMU (George Mason University) as a baseline, Camille and Jerry will review the list, and edit to the essential level, including the importance of Information Literacy. ACPC will come to an agreement on this list, and pass it on to Ed and Camille for presentation to Curriculum. As the list of 10 IT goals were discussed, there was agreement that not every goal is necessary for every student. For example, it is more important for our students to understand how to effectively use databases as opposed to programming them.

Regarding student IT skills, questions such as "Are we mandating these skills," and "Should they be delivered outside the curriculum?" should be addressed. If delivered outside the curriculum, the feasibility of obtaining ITS resources to support this endeavor would have to be ascertained and discussed by ITSC.

The following is a list of ACPC meetings for the Spring:

2/6   Friday   10-11:30 am
2/16 Monday   1:00-2:15 pm
2/27 Friday   10-11:30 am
3/8   Monday   10-11 am
3/22 Monday   1:00-2:15 pm
4/2   Friday   10-11:30 am