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To: irc-list@skidmore.edu
Subject: IRC Minutes, Oct 7, 1999

Minutes from IRC Meeting of October 7, 1999

Present: Robert DeSieno (chair), Karl Broekhuizen, Matt Gittelman, Paytelman, Roy Meyers, Ann Henderson, Rory McVeigh, Leo Geoffrion, Susan Zappen

Susan Zappen presented Appendix C of the copyright policy to IRC. This section summarizes the process for registering works for copyright protection. The Appendix was approved as written and it will be published via the College web server.

Susan Zappen presented, in behalf of Jennifer Taxman, a modified edition of the draft policies for web page creation. This draft expands the document to include ftp sites since these sites have been a major source of copyright violations. Karl Broekhuizen reported that he has now received recommended revisions from the College attorney on the original draft of this document. Jennifer Taxman will integrate the lawyer's revisions into the above edition and resubmit it for legal review and IRC approval.

Leo Geoffrion gave a preliminary report on the budget-building process for the coming fiscal year. There is not sufficient information at this time to predict what major initiatives will be submitted. Meanwhile, Leo Geoffrion indicated that he is working with Mike Hall and Chris McGill to explore the use of on-line forms to improve the efficiency of budget submission and review of technology purchases.

In the budget discussion, Ann Henderson cautioned that offices will need to prepare for introduction of the Student Information System. Several offices may need upgraded computers. Karl Broekhuizen questioned whether it is now time for the College to adopt a single hardware platform standard. Leo Geoffrion expressed the need for faster budget development in order to start replacing public computers at the end of the semester in May.

Bob DeSieno presented a summary of the Information Resources Taskforce II deliberations. The taskforce is continuing to meet with representatives from the various information centers. He has recruited Joseph Shomphe to help assemble a delegation of student who can comment on the student perspective. Rory McVeigh offered his senior thesis seminar as another student resource.

DeSieno believes that the IRTFII is gathering valuable perspective on the integration of information across the campus and how the use of this information is reshaping college operations. At the same time, there remain daily frustrations as the realities of computing fall short of the expectations. He described the example of incompatibilities among different editions of MS-Office preventing the sharing of drafts among faculty who are collaborating on grant proposal. This sparked discussion of the need for computer standards and timely replacements.

Leo Geoffrion offered an introductory description of the Information Resources Managers (IRM) and its relationship to IRC. IRM is currently working on coordinating services between the Library and CITS, and it will have the lead role in developing the IRC budget.

Ann Henderson summarized progress on the Oracle conversion. The College

will get its first look at the SIS software next week. This will be reviewed to establish its compliance with design specifications, but installation will not happen until a future edition.

Karl Broekhuizen reported that Phil Cifarelli has concluded negotiations with Exeter to refund a major portion of the College's investment in this software.

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