

## **Appendix E Five-Year Annual Review Computing Resources Committee**

Interviewed Stefanie Buck, Chair, Computing Resources Committee

Reviewed by Eugene Zhang, Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences

### **a) Do the Standing Rules clearly reflect the function & composition of this committee?**

The standing rule of the Computing Resources Committee states that the task of the committee is to review and recommend policy concerning technology as used by faculty in instruction, research, and service on campus and off-campus. It assists in planning and advocating for the necessary technology to maximize student learning and enhance faculty research and service activities to OSU and the wider community. It acts to advise other committees and Information Services, as well as providing leadership in adoption and effective use of computing for instruction, research, and service.

According to its standing rules, the Computing Resources Committee consists of six Faculty, at least four of whom must be Teaching Faculty, and two Students, and the Vice Provost for Information Services, ex-officio, non-voting. The Vice Provost for Information Services may recommend a resource person from Information Services as another ex-officio, non-voting member.

This year, the Committee has been meeting regularly. The Committee consists of six faculty members without student members. One of the faculty members, the chair, is from the Disabilities Access Services (DAS), which helps the Committee in making decision by taking into account the diversity of the students' background.

It is also suggested that perhaps future Committees involve more instructors and professors to facilitate discussion and recommendations directly related to classroom teaching.

### **b) Have the committee's actions/function, as reported in the annual reports and based on consultation with the current chair and committee, been consistent with their Standing Rules?**

We note that the annual reports for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 are not available on the faculty senate's web page. Based on the interview with the Committee's Chair of 2010-2011, it is clear that the committee's action/function has been mostly consistent with the Committee's Standing Rules. On the other hand, it appears that the process can be improved if teaching faculty can be better represented in future Committees. Moreover, the Committee's Chair noted that sometimes it is not clear who is the point of contact in the University when the Committee makes a recommendation, such as types of Clicker devices to recommend.

**c) Do the annual reports provide a memory of the issues this committee addressed, their activities and any outcomes?**

As mentioned earlier, the annual report for 2008-2009 was not available on Faculty Senate's web page. Furthermore, the annual report for 2009-2010 was never developed according to the Committee's Chair of 2010-2011 who was also a member of the Committee during 2009-2010. The Chair plans to write the report for this year.

**d) What has been the role/benefit of the student members?**

The student members on the Computing Resources Committee have the same voting right as the faculty members on the Committee. This ensures that the students' viewpoints can be heard and reflected in the decision, which, according to the Chair of the Committee, has made significant differences in the decision of Committees on numerous cases. However, no student members were appointed to the Committee during Year 2010-2011.

**e) What connection is there to the University's strategic plan?**

The Computing Resources Committee is a key part of the University's strategic plan in sustaining and accelerating improvements in student learning and experience. This is achieved by providing and maintaining classroom and equipment as well as online service software to students such as BlackBoard. This serves another goal from the University's strategic plan: align and strengthen innovative scholarly and research activities to continue discovering new products and technologies that generate economic activity.

**f) To what extent does the committee add value to the university and/or faculty governance?**

The Computing Resources Committee makes informed recommendations on technology-related issues that are important to the University's strategic plan, as well as the experiences of students and faculty members of the University.

**g) If the chair believes the committee does not add value, please explain and address the question as to whether the committee should continue to exist.**

The Chair is convinced of the values added by the Computing Resources Committee to the University and does not see any reason for the Committee to discontinue.

**h) Does this committee's work enhance OSU's commitment to diversity? If so, how?**

The Computing Resources Committee consists of faculty members from a diverse range of background and includes a member from the Disability Access Services. Consequently, when making recommendations, the Committee is sensitive to the diverse backgrounds and needs of the students, such as students who may not be able to afford frequent upgrade of hardware such as Clickers which can be expensive.