

Computer Services
September 5, 2006

Members Present: Harshvardhan (Chairman), Baldwin, Gabrielov, Gluhovsky, Edwards,
Zurn-Birkhimer

Members Absent:

Prof. Harshvardhan started the meeting by saying that he has heard questions from faculty as to what the structure of the department is in terms of computer help. Who actually receives the e-mail when sending to the alias "eas-itap" address? Who are the computer personnel?, etc. A quick e-mail or flyer should be sent around to all the faculty, staff, and graduate students to let them know. The committee should also prepare a more detailed rules and regulations and put these up on the Web.

Chris explained that he was managerial for Windows/Mac. Ben Cotton has been hired, until the end of December, for Unix/Linux. They have also hired three undergraduates to help. Chris said that they were also in the process of interviewing for the Unix/Linux position. They have had two very good candidates. One candidate has a basic level knowledge of Unix/Linux machines, but knows the science of what we do. The other candidate has more Unix/Linux experience from ISP, but does not know the science. They will check the references of both and then make a decision.

The first issue brought up was that we currently have a six-month agreement with ITaP. Once this expires, the department will need to decide if they would like to continue with ITaP's connection. Computer personnel are EAS employees, but ITaP does "behind the scenes work". The College of Science is trying to implement their own computing network, but some departments are resistant in doing this. This, however, is in the very early stages of planning.

A second issue that will need to be addressed is the "back-up" of files. ITaP currently does this free-of-charge. We are now going to have to come up with a policy of our own for backing up files.

A third issue that will need to be discussed will concern the use of charging for copies on our departmental printers. The committee will need to come up with a policy concerning this charge.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned.