

**MINUTES OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMPUTING COMMITTEE MEETING**

HELD ON Wednesday 15th June 2011

Present: DJC - David Colling

SF - Simon Fayer

RB - Richard Bantges

RBe - Raymond Beuselinck

AM(ICT) - Adrian Mannall

DC - Dave Clements

SS – Stefan Scheel

RK – Robert Kingham

HV - Harry Vine

VF - Vivienne Frater

KW - Kenny Weir

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Huxley Machine room status and plans  KW advised that no decision has been made as to what is going to happen with the Huxley machine room. The department will discuss with the groups their requirements and factor this into the decision making process.  DC advised that there may possibly be a small space in an air conditioned room on level 10.  It was noted that it would be very useful to have a small amount of air conditioned space in Blackett, rather than all of it being off site. | Actions  KW |
| Actions arising from last meeting  1. Investigate the possibility of using NetBeans for teaching. – Action carried over.  2. Get SharePoint configuration finished - End of week. – To be confirmed this week  3. Investigate who manages lab PCs. 1st yr lab – Harish Dawda; 2nd yr lab - Graham Axtell; 3rd yr lab – Lee Parker.  4. Check lecture theatre projectors & AV and check renewal date. - Action ongoing. AM aware of AV problems in LT1 - ICT to setup a group to solve this properly AM suggested a specific meeting to try and solve this properly. DJC to set up the group and suggested July would be best time for this meeting.  5. Arrange Blackboard so tutors can access tutee's marks. Action ongoing.  6. Send an e-mail about IDL licenses. Action ongoing. | Actions  CC/DC  DJC  Completed  ICT & DJC  JC  RB |
| Disaster Recovery  HV advised that he has some returns back and for the time being will not be chasing for those that are missing. He has been nominated to be the departments’ designated Empirical user – compiling all the information onto the database and will get back to the missing returns. HV noted that if risks are put in that are associated with other departments, when those boxes are ticked a message goes directly to ICT.  7. HV asked AM to whom in ICT it goes to. AM to find out and advise.  8. (Teaching materials can be backed up to Sharepoint once this is configured.)  DJC got an action to get this configured this week. - Action carried over.  News and round up from teaching  1st Year teaching – have issues with the Visual studio software being too powerful for the lab computers.  Some 1st Yr & 3rd Yr lab project PCs need power where they are located  AM said that we asked should we be looking at virtual machines / commercial software flexibility to teaching rooms.  9. DJC suggested action to keep Teaching review group informed about UG Computing issues?  AM said that Maths bought 5 rack mounted Teaching servers that people cued their jobs to – that it works very well.  10. DJC said that a proper discussion is needed with all people involved in Teaching computing. DJC to action.  HV confirmed that the Teaching computer replacement scheme have 20 machines coming in – 10 machines have been earmarked for 1st Yr lab and some to level 3 computing room. | AM  DJC  DJC  DJC |
| **ICT News & Plans**    The HPC cluster is being upgraded – moving across servers. This will overcome some of the stumbling blocks for iMac users and Entourage 2008 |  |
| **News round up from Groups**    Issues with throttling of networks. ICT relaxed it on occasion, but there is a temporary requirement for it to be re-configured again. AM said it needs proper demarcation on the room. That Fibre optic cable should be installed into whatever replaces the Huxley machine room 147.  **11.** DJC to discuss this with KW when the time comes.  DJC to find out if LESC still exists in Department of Computing and can it be used by the groups. | DJC |
| **AOB.**    Mathematica licensing is still in the hands of the lawyers. DJC said that if any copy in use can be proved to be a legal copy then it should be fine. Approx. 1 year to go on current licence held by College. As Physics mainly use Mathematica the intention is to setup a few servers with it on but will keep all informed.  AM said that those who have bought this privately should not be using it on the College network as this could be deemed as illegal use. |  |
| Date of next meeting to be confirmed in due course. |  |