OCCC Minutes
May 1, 1998
Oregon State University, Room 155A, CH2M Hill Alumni Center

Presiding: Peggy Weems

Attendees:

Anderson, Linda; Clackamas CC
Bryson, Dale; Umpqua CC
Budd, Timm; OSU
Casey, Peter; Central Oregon CC
Converse, George
Heckman, Dennis; Portland CC
Heider, Erika; Portland CC
Kaczmarczyk, Lisa: Chemeketa CC
Laam, Mike; Rogue CC
Little, Ron
Loft, Linda; Lane CC
Todd, David; Mt. Hood CC
Van der Bijl, Baldwin; Clackamas CC
VanLuik, Jack; Mt.Hood CC
Wallace, Ron; Blue Mountain CC
Weems, Peggy: Linn-Benton CC
Wright, Ed: WOU
Yang, Sherry

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1. Minutes were approved as read.

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2. Computer literacy courses (105, 120, 121, BA 131) were discussed. There continue to be a variety of delivery mode and implementations for these classes, as well as numbers of credits. For 120 and 121:

The class is offered as a 3 credit class in the following modes:

3 hours lecture

2 hours lecture, 2 hours lab, with the larger lecture group split in two for the lab

The class is offered as a 4 credit class in the following modes:

4 hours lecture, 2 hours lab

4 hours lecture, instructor available in open lab

3 hours lecture, 3 hours lab

2 hours faculty lecture, 2 hours lab with TA (Southern Oregon)

For BA 131 (CIS 131):

The class is offered as a 4 credit class.

Peggy Weems said that for Linn Benton's computer literacy requirements, particular classes are included, or students take a computer literacy test. (She has a copy of the test available.) Literacy needs are incorporated into courses as part of the curriculum, rather than targeted as a particular skill set. Computer literacy is defined by each department. For professional-technical programs, the requirements are agreed upon by the Advisory Committee or by the Curriculum Committee. She pointed out that the AAOT does not have a computer literacy requirement.

At Western, there is no computer literacy requirement. Students are required to take 12 hours of computer science or math to get a BS degree, and many choose the computer coursework. The class is taught in a large lecture due to lab classroom limitations. All requirements and lecture notes for the class are placed on the web. Students do the lab work independently, with help as needed.

At Central Oregon Community College, the CIS and CS departments are combined. CIS 131 (BA 131) is a four credit class, with three hours of large lecture and a split lab for two hours. CS 120 (CIS 120) is a 4 credit class, meeting for 5 hours. The class uses the Internet and email extensively, with support materials and assignments posted online. The lab sections are taught in a closed lab classroom with 24 work stations. At least half the lab time is spent in lecture, and students spend more time outside the classroom working in the lab. COCC plans to move the course into a lecture/lab environment.

At Blue Mountain CC, the 4 credit CS 120 is taught as a distance ed class. The lecture class is taught in two 2 hours blocks, with an hour scheduled in the lab and quizzes and testing being done through the web site.

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3. Languages taught in programming classes were discussed, including 133 and the 161, 162, 260 sequence. In most schools, these courses are taught as lecture with an open lab.

Linn-Benton will teach Java in the fall of 1998, with one term of C++ being a prerequisite for the Java. Visual Basis is a prerequisite for C++, so students

have done some programming before they take CS 161. "Java is simpler and more freshman friendly."

Oregon State is moving to Java for their major sequence. CS 160 is an Introduction to the Computer Profession course for CS majors, with little programming. CS 161 is an Intro to Computing course. CS 162 is the first programming class, and OSU will be moving away from C++, to Java. "Java is a better pedagogical tool than C++." Course listings for the 160 series in the catalogue will take away all references to languages.

Westerns teaches 160 and 161 with 3 lecture, 3 hours lab. They are moving to Java for programming classes. Suggested textbooks are Lewis & Loftus, Kamin, and Horton.

Portland CC is continuing classes in Java, including the interface with the Microsoft world from Java. They are also looking at Visual Java and J++.

Central Oregon Community College has no prerequisites for 133V, but 133 is a prerequisite for 161.

At Clackamas, 133 Visual Basic has a prerequisite of 122, which is an Intro to Visual Basic and Programming course.

Clackamas CC will use the number 160 for its new Intro for Computer Technicians course in the technical program sequences.

Platforms were discussed. Code Warrior, Jpeg Pro, and Kawa were mentioned. The shareware Java compiler is available at www.download.com. (Peter Casey)

There is very little Mac use at community colleges. OSU still has a Mac lab, as does Western. At Lane, the multimedia people are working on Macs. At Portland CC, graphics design and the English department work on Macs, but multimedia work is done on PC's.

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4. Internet classes, purpose, content, and course numbers were discussed.

Dennis Heckman (Portland CC) feels that Internet literacy needs to be a strong part of CS 120.

Clackamas CC has an Internet in Depth course which has prerequisites of CS 120 and CS 278 (Data Communications.) This course is intended for students in the technical programs and is not an Internet literacy class like the CS 178. Clackamas will return to the fall meeting to get a number for its Internet in Depth course.

Central Oregon CC offers a CS 94, 1 credit, Intro to the World Wide Web, and CS 95, 2 credits, Intro to the Internet.

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5. New courses and numbers for those courses included Lane Community College's Information Analysis course, CIS 247. An outline was provided, and the purpose of the course is to "help students understand how information is collected, manipulated, analyzed, used and misused, and to build skills in information analysis students will use as knowledge workers, project leaders, and managers." Prerequisites for the class are CIS 125S, CIS 125D, CIS 135, and CIS 244.

Clackamas CC will use CS 160 for its new "Introduction to Computer Concepts for Technicians" class, one of the first classes in the sequence for the two technical programs in Network & Microcomputers and Computer Applications.

CS 180 is the course number for a "pre-CWE" class, a Computer Support Practicum, which involves supervised consulting.

CS 198 or 298 will be used for Special Projects courses.

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6. We had a tour of NACSE and a tour of SWARM, a supercomputer built from 32 Pentium computers with high speed connections.

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7. Kevin Johnson from Simon & Schuster gave a presentation on the Prentice Hall demo web site for distance learning classes. He detailed processes and costs to work with Prentice Hall to develop and present online coursework. Web sites to check are www.realeducation.com, www.prenhall.com, and www.webct.com. Use of content sites is free with textbook adoption, and this includes online practice testing and a threaded message board. There is also a syllabus builder and a web site gallery, 140 sites organized by subjected.

Certification training courses are available, including a turnkey package for self-paced independent learning. Information on particular textbook series is available at the website.

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8. Certification and its usefulness in our programs were discussed. This includes MCSE, CNE, A+ certifications. It was generally felt that the demand for Novell was decreasing and the demand for Windows NT increasing. Private sector certification classes are very expensive. Coursework for these certifications is available from several vendors. Dennis questioned whether

these courses are training, education, or simply practice for the exams. It is the courseware vendors who are highly touting these certifications.

Linn-Benton studied the costs and decided against offering certification. PCC provides preparation for the exams for students. Mt. Hood provides training for the MS software certifications.

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9. There was a discussion about the difficulty of hiring both part-time and full-time instructors. This was apparently similar to the discussion at the previous meeting.

Respectively Submitted By ...

Linda Anderson
Clackamas Community College

Please notify Ron Wallace by email of any updates or corrections.