

ACCESS CONSTITUENT GROUP MEETING
EDUCAUSE Conference
Wednesday, October 27, 1999

Attendance: 14 (4 from Private Secondary School, 10 from Higher Education)

Joyce Smith and March McGough, Bastyr University; Brian Fina, Eric Bird, Kathy Rood, Boston Architectural Center; Marty Hotaling, Keuka College, Mary Adele Combe and Jon Shannon Northfield Mount Herman; Darrell Webb and John Holmes, Grace University; Barry Smith, Baptist Bible College; Alan Schrick, Nazarene College; Valerie Roman, Phillips Academy.

Session Notes:

The following topics were generated from the attendees for discussion:

Proactive vs Reactive User Support
Leasing vs Purchasing Computer Equipment
Student Email System Maintenance
Email Packages
Web Maintenance and Development
Recruitment and Retention of IT Staff
Administrative Systems
Acquiring Funding and Grants

Initiation of Discussion – Participants introduced themselves, stated the institution they represented and their position.

Leasing vs Purchasing of Computer Equipment – We discussed the pro's and con's of leasing and who was presently using this vehicle to obtain computer equipment. Participants shared insight in keeping track of leased inventory and the need to inquire about disposing of leased equipment at the end of the lease.

Student Email systems were discussed. Various methods were used to generate and maintain accounts, however, mostly manual processes were used at our institutions.

Web Maintenance and Development was discussed. Webmaster positions within our institutions are still difficult to obtain thereby making web site difficult to keep up to date.

Recruitment and Retention of IT Staff – Professional development opportunities are key in keeping staff. Training and tuition reimbursement helpful also.

Administrative Systems – Participants shared the mix of administrative systems we are using, i.e. integrated vs best of breed. Issues include support, integrity of data and getting data out from the systems.

Finish-up and Summary – Dates for June ACCESS conference were discussed and we look forward to next year's conference and meeting.