

Santa Barbara City College

CLUSTER LEADER COUNSEL

COLLEGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

October 28, 1981

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Christensen, Jack Halloran, Ray Rosales, Jinny Webber, Klaus Wills, John Kay, Charles Hanson, Pat Huglin (Chairperson), Lynda Rodrigues, Lana Rose

MEMBERS ABSENT: Harold Fairly, Shirley Conklin (excused), Pope Freeman, Maury Ryan, Martin Bobgan, Charlotte Ley

RESOURCE MEMBERS PRESENT: Burt Miller, John Romo, Richard Sanchez

RESOURCE MEMBERS ABSENT: Mel Elkins (excused), Dan Oroz

GUESTS: Robert Dependahl, Ralph Schiferl

The entire session was devoted to a presentation and discussion on long-range planning for and by the Computer Science Department.

I. LONG-RANGE PLANNING FOR THE COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 2:40 P.M. and introduced Robert Dependahl, Acting Chairperson for Computer Science and Ralph Schiferl, Computer Science Chairperson who is on sabbatical leave during the 1981-82 school year.

A. Overview of Original Proposal and Actions and Dr. MacDougall's Subsequent Request.

John Romo provided background information regarding the original proposal; Ralph Schiferl had submitted a four-tier proposal for increasing the capability and efficiency of the Computer Science Program for consideration under the category of "Program Improvement and Evaluation" to the Committee on May 27, 1981.

On June 3, 1981 the Committee made a recommendation to Dr. Mertes (then President-Superintendent) supporting the first tier of the four-tier proposal; i.e., the procurement of a disc drive at approximately \$48,000. The Committee's recommendation to Dr. Mertes follows:

*"Ralph Schiferl is going on sabbatical leave during the 1981-82 school year; and without his presence on campus, it would not be advisable to expand the program. Therefore, the first priority would be to purchase the disc drive (\$48,000) during 1981-82, but it would be advisable to delay the second and third priorities (8 CRT terminals/ \$15,800-19,000) and the multi-plex channel (\$10,000) until 1982-83."*

OVER

MINUTES, continued

Specifically, Dr. MacDougall has requested that the Committee review, with the Computer Science Department, the Department's established priorities relative to the original proposal and in terms of a college-wide perspective thereby enabling the Committee to decide upon the most appropriate long-range plans for Computer Science.

John Romo pointed out several important factors that Committee members should keep in mind while pursuing long-range suggestions:

1. The growth potential in the area of computer science is, quite frankly, "amazing."
2. The lack of adequate room space could have serious repercussions on programs (especially Math and English) housed nearby the Computer Science Center.
3. The funding situation is unclear; it is obvious that growth ADA will not receive the support it has in the past.

B. Computer Science WSCH (net) Report: Fall, 1977 through Spring, 1981.

Reiterating Dr. MacDougall's request that the Committee analyze and recommend a desirable long-range plan relative to a college-wide perspective, John Romo distributed a WSCH report which consisted of breakdowns for enrollments for the past three years (Fall, 1977 through Spring, 1981) based on 4th census week figures.

Mr. Romo commented that the WSCH figure for Fall, 1980 (3,461) had increased from the Spring, 1980 WSCH figure (1,675) as a result of the purchase of a new computer. The Spring, 1981 WSCH figure (4,011) had increased from Fall, 1980's figure because of the inclusion of additional sections and the implementation of plus-hour labs. Currently, the WSCH figure for Fall, 1981 stands at 4,786; Mr. Romo noted that there are 26 sections of computer science this semester. Mr. Dependahl noted that there are 40-50 students "squeezed in" each section although each section is only allotted 30 students.

Regarding cost per WSCH, John Romo stated that the cost was \$26.63 for 1980-81 (increased due to the procurement of new equipment). The estimated cost per WSCH for 1981-82 will be a projected \$24.00. The college-wide average is currently \$44.00.

Concerning the cost/income ratio for the past three years in computer science, the cost was .55 for 1978-79, .48 for 1979-80, and .30 for 1980-81.

C. Computer Science Equipment Needs

Mr. Dependahl stated that the purchase of new equipment during 1980-81 had proved successful wherein the efficiency and capability of the program were benefitted; students were provided with the opportunity to enjoy more "hands-on" experience. However, due to the tremendous increase in enrollments, the program's capacity has been adversely affected; lab time is not as constructive as it should or could be because of the competition for computer resources. Mr. Dependahl summed

MINUTES, continued

up the situation in two words: "Negative growth"

In order to effectively meet its current demands, the Computer Science Department is requesting one Burst Multiplexor Channel and a 190 MB Disc Drive (\$33,000) eight Computer CRT Terminals (\$13,000), and four Primary Memories (256KB) (\$29,000).

Mr. Dependahl noted that the multiplexor channel and disc drive are essential items as they would increase the performance of the computer terminals.

Noting that the purchase of these requested items could only serve the immediate needs of the department and in no way lessen the crunch of an expected 25% increase in enrollments, several members voiced comments or questions; i.e., Jack Halloran emphasized the need to establish a set growth rate for the department. John Kay questioned the possible need of additional instructors and the dilemma of inadequate room space.

Lana Rose questioned the life cycle of the requested items. Ralph Schiferl replied that the average life span is from five to seven years, but that these particular models would be functional after that.

1. Maintenance Cost

Ralph Schiferl responded to Charles Hanson's inquiry regarding yearly maintenance costs by stating that the current rate is \$14,000 yearly. Mr. Schiferl additionally stated that the maintenance cost is usually only  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$  of the purchase cost.

2. The "Housing" Crunch

John Romo passed out a floor plan of the second floor in the Humanities Building. He stated that adequate space for housing additional equipment is a genuine problem. Compounding it is the fact that the majority of classes on campus meet between 9 A.M. and 1 P.M.

A brief summary of the floor plan for Computer Science classes follows:

H252 is the main terminal room and houses 22 terminals. H250 houses the computer and H251 is the office. H247 and H246 serve as office and storage areas. H244 is used only by Computer Science while H240 is used by Math and Computer Science and H241 and H242 are used by Math, English, and Computer Science. H245 houses the work tables where computer science students prepare their work.

Ralph Schiferl noted that H244, H241, and H240 were all built to accommodate just 30 people and the computer science classes are scheduled in H240 and H241 because of close proximity to the computer.

In essence, if additional room usage or expansion is permitted it would endanger other departments (especially Math and English) which have classes in the general vicinity.

OVER .....

MINUTES, continued

D. Computer Science Trends

Burt Miller noted that the demand for computer skills is growing. Mr. Dependahl noted that computer science is being taught in the local junior high and high schools; he predicted that it may become a high school graduation requirement within the next five years.

Jack Halloran commented that within the next three to five years, SBCC will view education in terms of reading, writing, and computer skills. The Chairperson commented on the possibility that computer science may become part of the general education requirements at SBCC.

Messrs. Hanson and Schiferl and Ms. Rose spoke concerning those adults who wish to upgrade themselves for the future by taking one or two computer science classes. Bob Christensen stated that SBCC has an obligation to serve the needs of the community regarding computer science.

E. Summary of Long-Range Plan Options

The Chairperson briefly reiterated the suggestions made regarding long-range planning:

1. Support the proposal but limit enrollments for the next two to three years so present students could be served effectively.
2. Incremental support. Essentially, to purchase one item at a time.
3. Turn down the request.
4. Make a college-wide analysis of resources needed and prioritize. (This is similar to the procedure adopted for selecting classified positions according to the need.)
5. Screen students wishing to enroll in Computer Science.

The Chairperson urged the Committee to peruse the alternatives; he stated that if any member comes up with another idea, to please submit it in preparation for the December 9, 1981 meeting; 2:30-4:00 P.M. - A218-C.\*

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

bk/jdm

cc: Dr. MacDougall  
Administrative Deans  
Assistant Deans  
Department Chairpersons  
Representative Council  
Dr. Lindemann

\*The additional time will allow the Computer Science Department to better prepare their presentation on long and short range planning.