Academic Foundations Committee Minutes

September 11, 2007

Present:	Oliver Chen Lea Zoltowski Jane Howell	Mark Hardt Kathy Kelker Tasneem Khaleel Ìex-officio
Absent:	Jay Shaw <i>È excused</i> Barb Pedula <i>È excused</i> David Garloff È ex-officio Mary Susan Fishbaugh È ex-officio John Cech È ex-officio Stacy Klippenstein È ex-officio	Abbas Heiat Ì <i>excused</i> Gary Young Ì ex-officio Karen Heikel Ì ex-officio George White Ì ex-officio
Presiding:	Mark Hardt, Chairperson	

Mark Hardt called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. in the Bridger room of the SUB.

The minutes of March 20 and notes of May 1 were accepted as presented.

A. eCompanion

It was noted that a couple years ago the AFC agreed that we would develop software for assessment with the help of College cZ'6i glbYgg'ZWV'mt' @thY'`Ughgdf]b['gYa YgYfzY7c``Y[Ytg' eCompanion was selected to be used instead. The faculty involved in that decision were told the AFC was not working on software so initiative had to be taken. The eCompanion software is labor-intensive, exactly what the AFC was trying to avoid. The AFC should continue to develop software for assessment.

It was noted that there is an eCompanion shell set up for every course offered this semester, but its use is required only for Academic Foundations courses. If faculty are already teaching online, set-up is easy. It is *not* easy for non-online courses and faculty who have never worked with eCollege.

It was cited there are numerous technical problems with the eCompanion shells. Passwords are a big issue because faculty received their passwords, which cannot be changed, in an Ya U`ThUhk Ugʻbch]a a YX]UhYmfYWd[b]nUYY"'=Mỹj Yfmdcgg]VY'hUha UbmZUWYmXYYhYX'hYY Ya U`UgʻgdUa "'HYYfY'Ugc']ggi Ygʻk]hYY7 c``Y[Yfýj\Yrd`]bYžUbX'hYYZUMithe eCollege plans to make some changes to the software during this semester. Another problem is that part-time faculty do not have computers. How are they to enter their assessment data? Assessment and eCompanion were not discussed at the part-time faculty orientation in August.

It was stated that the students have not received their passwords either. At least half of the students this fall do not yet have their passwords.

It was agreed that the AFC should hold another meeting to train faculty in the matrix and other objectives. We should also have the faculty passwords re-sent from a known campus person, perhaps Michael Barber, Chief Information Officer. The Deans could also be reminded to get their faculty started using their passwords. It was noted that for part-time faculty, the password is emailed directly to that faculty member. Perhaps the part-time