Summary of Breakout Sessions
Developing an IT Curriculum Workshop
April 27, 2001

Breakout Group 1 (Greeley)

- A two-fold track
  - A cores (for example, courses in the CITI document).
  - A module-based technology techniques course given in an appropriately equipped resource center.

- Minor in IT
  - Good for student’s job prospects.
  - Where housed?
  - Modules to some course electives.

Breakout Group 2 (Tenney)

- Should there be IT Competencies?
  - Yes

- Understand what IT tools do for us; to us.

- Should there be tracking of IT competency?

- IT fundamental course requirements may hurt students without resources.

- There is a difference between learning PowerPoint and knowing presentation skills.

- The mechanical is easy to test; the intellectual (high end) isn’t.

- Different IT fluency levels (baseline skills).

- If IT cannot constitute a major, can it carry a minor?

- Minor as knowledge of the applicability of IT (in different disciplines).

- So we know what we expect as a university from our students in terms of IT?

- Each college needs to see that courses require IT competency without additional training courses being added (e.g., College of Management).

- Does the General Education Requirement include IT? If not, shouldn’t it?

- Conclusion (?)
  - College-specific and not a university-wide evaluation of student’s IT skills
  - Different approaches (core, etc.) may be appropriate depending on circumstances.
Knowledge Area for IT

1) Science and many other courses
   • Data Acquisition
   • Enter Intro IT Model
   • Process to a conclusion
2) Technical Writing using IT
   • Must be able to communicate results

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Knowledge areas as part of IT

Security
Ethics
Databases
Networking

Don’t teach IT in a Vacuum (GIGO).

Must do a certain amount of work using traditional problem solving methods before using IT.

Proposed UMB IT Courses

2 (or 3) Phase

Phase A
   • Java
   • Visual Basic
   • C
   • Databases
   • WAN/LAN
   Lower level than UMA

Phase B
   • Incorporating IT into as many courses as possible

Phase C
   • Make sure that IT is actually used

Ideas

Incorporate IT into various major courses where appropriate.

IT courses must be multilevel for typical undergrads and working professionals.

Coordinate IT efforts with Community Colleges since they have done a lot in this area already.
WHAT DOES IT MEAN

Technology Utilization in Courses

- Amherst
  - 3 Core courses
    - Java
    - Data structures
    - Networking
  - +3 in the discipline
    - Courses would incorporate IT

Critique – very limiting entrance requirements
∴ Not feasible at UMB