

Instructional Resources Committee Assesses Library and Learning Resources

The Instructional Resources Committee is assessing the adequacy of the library, instructional resources, and student computer labs at Chipola. The assessment, which began in September 2005, includes analysis of student and faculty surveys. The committee will be making several recommendations as a result of the assessment.

Student Survey

The “Student Use of Labs Survey” was given to six MAT 0024 classes, two MAC 1105 classes, and to all walk-in students in the Tech Center. “We wanted our student survey to be brief and to target frequent lab users,” said math education instructor Dr. Cherry Ward, who co-chairs the Instructional Resources Committee. “We had 233 responses and learned that over 90% of the students are satisfied with academic support labs.” She said students wrote many positive comments about the lab hours, materials, personnel, and expressed general appreciation for having learning resources available for them. “We aren’t going to make any recommendations about student labs at this time. Obviously, the students who use them are satisfied,” said Ward.

RIGHT: The 233 student respondents reported using the Tech Lab, Math Lab, and Writing Lab a total of 608 hours per week. This is an average of over 2.5 hours per student.

Faculty Survey

The faculty survey was much more detailed and will result in several recommendations, according to librarian Renee Hopkins, who co-chairs the committee with Ward. “We asked questions about whether teachers have identified new materials, the process of requesting and receiving new materials, whether teachers think resources are equitably distributed, whether they receive training in the use of new technology, whether they are satisfied with library materials, and ways of improving instructional resources. We wanted to learn how faculty perceive learning resources at Chipola,” said Hopkins. (See Faculty Survey Results, pages 2-3.)

Assessment Results

The committee has concluded that faculty members are generally satisfied with the following:

- the clarity of procedures for requesting new instructional resources (items 1 and 2)
- the equity of resources within the departments (items 6, 7, and 8)
- the adequacy of the library’s print and online resources and the hours of operation (items 14, 15, and 16)
- the adequacy of the equipment, software, and hours of operation in the Tech Center, Writing Lab, and Math Lab (items 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22)

STUDENT SURVEY					
	Yes	No	# of Hours Per Week		
Do you use the Tech Lab?	99	134	330		
Do you use the Math Lab?	51	182	142		
Do you use the Writing Lab?	84	149	136		
TOTAL	234	465	608		
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Sun
Which evenings would you like the Tech Lab open?	15	14	8	11	14
Which evenings would you like the Math Lab open?	8	13	8	8	13
Which evenings would you like the Writing Lab open?	7	5	2	3	7

So far, the committee recommends the following specific improvements based on survey results:

- Increase communication between faculty and administration regarding budgets for departments, including accessible student activity fee money (items 5, 9, 24, 26, and 28);

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**Faculty Survey for the Instructional Resources Committee
Fall Semester 2005**

	YES	NO	DO NOT KNOW	N/A
1. In the past year, have you identified instructional resources that you would like to use but which the college doesn't have?	13	12	02	0
2. Is there a clear procedure by which you can submit requests for new instructional resources?	22	01	04	0
3. In the past year, have you requested any instructional resources?	21	06	0	0
• Were any of the instructional resources you requested this past year approved?	18	01	01	06
• Were any of the instructional resources you requested this past year denied or ignored?	02	13	01	06
4. In the past year, have you failed to request instructional resources because you felt the request would be denied or ignored?	02	23	0	02
5. Does your department have an adequate departmental budget for instructional resources? If not, please identify the areas that are lacking.	12	03	12	0
6. Do you feel that you have the same opportunities as other members within your department to get needed instructional resources?	26	0	01	0
7. Do you have the same access to use existing resources as others in your department?	26	0	01	0
8. Do you have the same access to new resources & training to use new resources as others in your department?	26	0	01	0
9. Does your department receive the same consideration for funding for resources/training as other departments on campus?	12	05	09	0
10. Does anyone regularly provide you information about new instructional resources in your field?	22	10	02	02
11. Does anyone regularly provide you training to use new instructional resources in your field?	11	11	03	02
12. Does anyone regularly provide planning and design support for incorporating the use of technology in your classes?	10	12	02	03
13. Does anyone regularly provide troubleshooting support for incorporating the use of new instructional resources in your classes?	11	11	03	02
14. Does the Library have adequate print resources to support the courses you teach?	19	0	05	02

	YES	NO	DO NOT KNOW	N/A
15. Does the Library have adequate non-print (online) resources to support the courses you teach?	20	0	04	02
16. Are the Library hours adequate to support the courses you teach?	22	0	01	01
17. Does the Tech Center have adequate equipment & software to support the courses you teach?	13	02	07	05
18. Does the Writing Lab have adequate equipment & software to support the courses you teach?	04	01	10	12
19. Does the Math Lab have adequate equipment & software to support the courses you teach?	12	0	06	09
20. Are the Tech Center hours adequate to support the courses you teach?	12	03	04	08
21. Are the Writing Lab hours adequate to support the courses you teach?	04	01	09	12
22. Are the Math Lab hours adequate to support the courses you teach?	11	01	04	10
23. Are you aware of statewide collaboration efforts to develop instructional materials to be shared among participating colleges?	04	17	05	01
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In reference to this statewide effort, do you know what the term “learning object” means? 	06	14	03	02
24. As a faculty member, are you involved in developing budget requests?	05	17	03	02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, do you have budgeting guidelines and when and how are those presented to you? 	04	05	03	07
25. Would you use any of the following instructional resources if made available:	0	0	0	01
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locally housed course management system (Blackboard, WebCT) 	11	02	12	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College hosted email for students 	18	02	07	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streaming video 	13	03	10	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart Board or ELMO 	07	03	15	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom performance system (eInstruction) 	09	03	14	01
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wireless computer network 	14	03	09	0

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- Develop more support for the integration of new instructional resources. A substantial number of teachers are interested in utilizing technology-based instructional resources. However, they are unaware of available academic technical resources. (items 10, 11, 12, , 25, 26, 27, and 28);
- Include more faculty in planning and design support for incorporating technology into instruction. (item 12);
- Provide troubleshooting help when using new instructional resources within the classroom. (item 13); and
- Allow release time and/or monetary incentives for faculty who are willing to try innovative new initiatives in their classes (item 28).

Committee Plans

Ward and Hopkins say the Instructional Resources Committee plans to take the following steps as a result of the assessment:

- Share the results of the survey with the Board of Trustees, Governance Council, faculty, staff, and administration by publishing them in *Chipola Facts*;
- Request that more money be allocated for academic technical resources and support;
- Spearhead an effort to increase awareness of currently available instructional technology resources;

- Share information about collaborative efforts being made statewide;
- Actively advocate for the improvement of instructional resources by participating in college planning and grant writing efforts; and
- Investigate how the following technology might impact Chipola (based on item 25):
 - (1) locally housed course management systems like Blackboard and WebCT,
 - (2) college hosted e-mail for students,
 - (3) streaming video,
 - (4) Smart Board or ELMO,
 - (5) classroom performance system (eInstruction),
 - (6) wireless computer network.

The Committee

Purpose: The Instructional Resources Committee serves as the vehicle for the coordination and evaluation of services structured to enhance the student’s learning experience. Service areas include the Library and open access computer labs. Recommendations and annual reports are made to the Governance Council.

Membership: The committee is led by co-chairs Dr. Cherry Ward, math education instructor, and Renee Hopkins, reference librarian. Other members are Nancy Burns, James Bailey, Dr. Robert Dunkle, Betty Broome, Dennis Everett, Dr. Ed Lyon, Barbara Taylor, and Gail Hartzog.

2005 GRADUATING STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS					
How Satisfied Are Graduates with Chipola’s Instructional Technology?					
How would you rate the usefulness of classroom multimedia presentations?	39% Very Helpful	43% Usually Helpful	16% Occasionally Helpful	2% Not Very Helpful	
How would you evaluate the computer literacy level of instructors in general?	52% Very Literate	41% Fairly Literate	4% Beginning Skills	3% Do Not Know	
Approximately how often did you use the library?	21% Almost every day	23% Once a week	30% Several times per semester	16% Once or twice per semester	10% Never/Do not know
While enrolled at Chipola, did you ever use a campus computer in a class or lab?	98% Yes	2% No	<i>Students who answered “Yes,” also answered the following questions:</i>		
How would you rate the quality of technology available to students?	54% Excellent	39% Satisfactory	7% Okay, but could be better	0% Desperately needs improvement	
How would you rate the availability of computer workstations?	20% More than needed	76% Just about right	4% Lacking	0% Severely lacking	
How often did you use a campus student computer?	23% Every day	48% More than once a week	28% Seldom	1% Never	