

## Central Committee on Educational Technology

Minutes from the 5/5/09 meeting

Present: Becky Adae(co-chair), Susan DeMaio(co-chair), Rachel Rigolino, Lura Speth, Jonathan Lewit(ex-officio), Colleen Lougen, Orkunt Dalgic

Meeting called to order at 1:42pm

We corrected the minutes from 4/21/2009, including the minutes from 2/24/2009. Both sets of minutes were approved with minor corrections.

Old Business – We were discussing our thoughts on the Course Management packages that we have been looking at.

Blackboard 9: There have been problems setting up the server due to the fact that Blackboard 9 will require a server farm instead of just the one server we currently have. The equipment will need to be purchased, but once that is accomplished, Jon Lewit said that there shouldn't be a problem getting it up and running.

Moodle: We had a demonstration by Moodle Rooms of Moodle. Some thoughts about Moodle were: clunky, cluttered, there was concern about the content repository and security and file management. Also there was concern about the fees Moodle Rooms would charge for customization. Moodle is open source, but Moodle Rooms will host it for you and charge you for hosting/customizations. Currently Delhi runs Moodle and two community colleges.

Angel: There was discussion about where Angel could be hosted. Jon said that it could be totally hosted up at ITEC in Buffalo, or we could host it in New Paltz and pay ITEC for support, or we could support it with our staff. With a reduced staff, having these options might be a good thing. We thought a demo of Angel from the perspective of blackboard users who have switched to Angel might be a good thing. Someone from Oneonta (Jim?) has already done this and might be a good person to talk to. Angel is the SUNY standard, so there might be benefits because of that. There was concern that importing more complicated courses into Angel might be more difficult than the salesman showed us. We were of the opinion that Angel has a better graphical user interface than Blackboard 9.

There was a motion to only consider Angel as an alternative to Blackboard because of our concerns about Moodle. The motion passed unanimously.

Going forward:

- Get some Blackboard power users together to demo Angel
- Try importing some more complicated courses from Blackboard into Angel

Meeting adjourned at 2:44pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lura Speth