

From: IN%"ccrees@cc.uq.oz.au" 18-FEB-1992 09:19:19.45
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CC: g.huston@aarnet.edu.au
Subj: DRAFT QUESTnet Minutes

Gents,

See I told you I'm not too good at this job. Please let me know if you think I've missed something important or miss-recorded a major decision.

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Notes regarding these minutes. Agenda items are numbered. Facts recorded are preceded with the persons initials. Resolutions etc are noted and followed by any action required in [].

QUESTnet - AARNet Queensland Region

Minutes of Management Meeting, February 14, 1992

Electronic Mail to: questnet-mgt@brolga.cc.uq.edu.au

Attendance:

Alan Coulter (UQ) Chair
Ian Hunter (JCU)
Ian Jenkins (UCQ)
John Noad (QUT)
Geoffrey Dengate (GU)
Alan McMeekin (USQ)
Greg Barnett (Bond)
Alan Hayman (DBIRD)
John Mularvey (AVCC)
Geoff Huston (AARNet)
Graham Rees (UQ)

*QUESTnet. Advisory Committee meeting on
Future Direction*

AARNet Queensland Regional Meeting

1. Welcome to the AVCC
2. Relationship between the AVCC and the Qld Regional Group

JM: Geoff Huston has been appointed the Manager of AARNet. Another technical person will be appointed for support.

JM: New AARNet Advisory Board is to be appointed which will report to the new Information Technology Committee. Don McNicol will chair both committees.

JM: TAFE joining AARNet is on the Agenda.

JM: The need for regional groups, such as that operating in Queensland, was recognised during the formation of AARNet. Such groups operate in an advisory capacity as detailed in the original AARNet documents.

Resolution: There is a need for improved communication between the AVCC and the QUESTnet Management Committee regarding matters about AARNet. The Agenda and dates of QUESTnet meetings and details of all resolutions, recommendations and decisions will be forwarded to the AARNet Manager - [AWC].

JM: Volunteered to make sure that information from the AVCC about AARNet would be forwarded to the Chairman of the QUESTnet Management Committee.

Resolution: QUESTnet would encourage TAFE to join AARNet and recommend that TAFE be allowed member status. In the Queensland context it would be sensible to allow a number of connections into AARNet, for example, Brisbane, Townsville, Rockhampton and Toowoomba. However, it is recommended that the second and subsequent connections should be funded by TAFE.

3. Relationship between AVCC/AARNet and the Qld Hub

Action: The AARNet Manager will update the document describing the responsibilities of the hub and member client sites - [GH].

4. AARNet Directory Service Project

Resolution: QUESTnet recommends that the AARNet Advisory Board provide continued support for the Directory Services project in 1992.

5. AARNet X.25

GH: To prepare a requirements and specification document for comments.

6. AARNet X.400 Gateway

GH: UQ has agreed to provide the support for this service at UQ. The service will go into production in the near future.

7. Australian Networkshop 1992

Report from JW & C. Keane.

GH: Advised that the Networkshop will be held in Queensland. A Networkshop Program Committee had been formed after the Hobart workshop (Geoff Huston, Chris Keane (UTAS), Trevor Hales (CSIRO) and Bob Kummerfield (SU)).

Resolution: The Network will be held at Bond University during the first week of December 1992 - providing a 2 Mbps link can be installed to the Queensland hub from Bond - [GB and GH].

Resolution: JDN will convene a Working Party to organise the Networkshop from the Queensland side - [JDN]. GH to form/confirm a national Program Committee - [GH].

8. Remote Access

[Remote Access to remain on the agenda].

9. Security

AWC to Report.

[Freedom Of Information and Security to remain agenda items].

Recommendation to the Advisory Board: That the Advisory Board develop a national policy on FOI and Security - [GH].

Action: AWC to prepare some draft material on FOI and Security policy - [AWC].

10. Other Business

Recommendation to the Advisory Board: That the method of funding AARNet remain as a subscription on some prorata basis and not be changed to end-user pays - [GH].

QUESTnet Meeting

1. Items from the Executive Meeting:

- (i) Super Computing in Queensland,

- (ii) Queensland Government Departments joining AARNet,
- (iii) Draft letter to University Departments to encourage affiliate membership,
- (iv) TAFE joining AARNet,
- (v) Access to Government data bases via AARNet.

AH: Reported that items (ii), (iv) and (v) are underway but not a great deal of action has occurred as yet. [To remain on the agenda]

Very little action regarding the deployment of a large super-computer in Queensland. [To remain on the agenda].

Resolution: All Directors would use the draft (or similar) letter to HODs to encourage affiliate membership to AARNet. The AARNet Manager will forward details of the new SLIP service to be offered.

2. QUESTnet Management Committee Structure and Membership

Resolution: That the membership of the QUESTnet Management Committee comprise the Computer Centre Directors.

Resolution: That Graham Rees (UQ) and Alan Hayman (DBIRD) be invited to attend all QUESTnet Management meetings.

Resolution: That the Deputy Secretary and the Manager of AARNet be invited to attend all QUESTnet Management meetings.

Resolution: The QUESTnet Executive will meet as considered necessary by the chairman. This is not expected to occur very frequently.

Resolution: That the minutes of the QUESTnet Management meetings record only significant facts and resolutions and decisions of the Committee. The Directors will rotate in recording the minutes.

3. QUESTnet Phase 2 Report

Mark.

GR: The Phase 2 network is now fully operational. Configuration and financial model circulated.

4. QUESTnet Phase 3 Report

No action -

Resolution: Marion Pender (DBIRD) and GR will develop a draft proposal for QUESTnet Phase 3.

Resolution: A Seminar or Demonstration will be organised for Queensland Cabinet Ministers and Advisers and Key Senior Public Servants to show the benefits and uses of QUESTnet/AARNet.

NO.

AH: Advised that David Barbagello was now the Senior Policy Adviser to the Premier. The interim IPB was to be formalised into a permanent board. The Information Industries Board was expected to be a catalyst for the development of high technology industry in Queensland. The Government expected the CSIRO Division of Geomechanics at Pinjara Hills to be the focal point for super-computing in Queensland.

5. 1991 Winter Networkshop Report

IMH: The Networkshop was very successful. An unexpected profit of about \$7,000 was recorded.

Resolution: The seminar for Government Ministers be funded from this source.

6. 1992 Winter Networkshop

Resolution: In view of the Australian Networkshop being in Queensland there would no QUESTnet Winter Networkshop for 1992.

7. QUESTnet Funding Issues

8. Communication Links Rationalisation

GR: With the present growth and demand for inter and intra campus high speed links, there may be significant cost and other benefits in rationalising such links.

Resolution: Mark Williams (UQ) will convene a Technical Working Party, with members from the Computer Centre and Buildings and Grounds divisions of each of The University of Queensland, Queensland, the Queensland University of Technology and Griffith University, to investigate possible rationalisation of communications infrastructure. TO REPORT

AH: The State Government has recently published an RFI concerning the rationalisation of all the governments communications infrastructure. CITEC has offered to make available a Strategic Report on Broadband Services.

9. Policy Relating to the Purchase, Use and Maintenance of PCs.

IMH: The Auditor General has raised the issue of the lack of any documented policy regarding the Purchase, Use and Maintenance of Personal Computers.

Resolution: All Directors are requested to develop an outline policy for further discussion - [All].

10. USEnet NEWS

JDN: QUT carried out a brief survey to find out whether institutions censored any USEnet NEWS groups. In general, the groups are not censored for erotic or pornographic content.

11. Other Business

GR: Scitec multiplexers, purchased as part of QUESTnet Phase 2/3, are maintained by the institutions from a pool of spares located at UQ. A special arrangement is in place for the repair of failed modules by Scitec. This procedure results in a very low maintenance cost for equipment which has proved very reliable. Similar arrangements might be advantageous for other equipment, such as Wellfleet Routers.

Resolution: The Technical Working Party, convened by Mark Williams (UQ), also be requested to investigate this matter.