Members for 2011-12

Students
- Reethee Antony (Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences)
- Tim Fujioka (Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Languages)
- Margaret Galvan (English)
- Patricia Stapleton (Political Science)
- Benjamin Miller (English) - alternate
- Suzanne Tamang (Computer Science) - alternate

Faculty
- Frank Burbrink, Professor, Sciences Cluster
- Lia Schwartz, Professor, Humanities Cluster
- Thom Thurston, Professor, Social Sciences Cluster
- Steve Brier, Professor, GC Academic Technology Officer (non-voting member)

Librarian
- Polly Thistlethwaite, Chief Librarian

Administrative
- Bob Campbell, VP for IT, Committee Chair (non-voting member)

Initiatives for 2012-13

Recurring
- Funding support for specified recurring hardware maintenance costs
- Funding support for specified recurring software maintenance costs
- Funding support for targeted recurring library subscriptions costs
- Funding support for student printing consumables (toner and paper)
- Partial funding support for annual CUNY ETI charges
- Funding for routine replacement of student printers and PCs, on an as-needed basis

New Projects
- Provalis Software. Proposal by P. Stapleton & S. Tamang:
  - **Description:** Qualitative Data Analysis Software for Humanities and Social Sciences.
  - *Over 60 students responded positively to a brief survey, saying that they would use such software in their research in: Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, Educational Psychology, Social-Personality Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Environmental Psychology, Industrial-Organizational Psychology, Experimental Forensic Psychology, Philosophy, English, Art History, and the Center for Study in Education.*
- The proposal would require the purchase of a software license for the Graduate Center for up to 5 simultaneous users at $4,660. The software would need to be installed on five computers in one of the student hubs.

- **Budget justification:** The cost of the software license is less than 1% of the total STF budget, with the potential to reach students in at least thirteen different departments. Although the GC currently has other licensed qualitative data analysis software, such as ATLAS and NVivo, Provalis offers different functions. While there is a potential for overlap, after doing a review of what Provalis offers compared to those programs, we find that the content/text analysis and visualization tools of Provalis surpass ATLAS and NVivo. This software is also much easier to use immediately, without the same struggles that students have with our current programs. Several students in the Political Science and Psychology departments are using qualitative software, and Provalis fits their needs much better, in part because the data visualization functions are better. Feedback from students in the English department also indicates that Provalis would be a better fit with the type of research they’re doing with textual analysis.

- **Student-run Software Training Sessions. Proposal by P. Stapleton:**
  - **Description:** Due to changes in IT’s budget, the department no longer offers as many training sessions in available software programs. In addition, due to a lack of IT workers who are familiar with particular programs, IT cannot offer training in highly-specified software that would be of use to student researchers. As a consequence, students often must rely on other students in their departments to help them learn important software applications, muddle through on their own, or completely ignore available software because of their lack of training. To meet GC student needs in software training, this proposal recommends student-run training sessions.

  - The DSC Steering Officer for Technology and Library will identify student instructors and will organize, in conjunction with IT, training sessions over the course of the academic year. Sessions will be scheduled based on student feedback, which will be measured through frequent GC-wide surveys.

  - The first such survey was conducted in February 2012. The survey received 79 student responses, representing 14 GC departments. The survey assessed the general student interest in attending training sessions (73 students responded that they would attend training sessions; 6 students indicated that they might attend training sessions). The survey also assessed the demand for different categories of software: mapping software; qualitative data analysis software; quantitative data analysis software; citation manager software; digital pedagogy software; audio-
visual content creation software; and computational modeling software. Over half the respondents expressed interest in qualitative analysis software (41 of 79), quantitative analysis software (41 of 79), and citation manager software (53 of 79). For a digital pedagogy training session, 34 of 79 respondents expressed interest. There was less, though still a significant amount of, interest in mapping software (23 of 79) and audio-visual content creation software (25 of 79). Comparatively, there was little interest in computational modeling software, with only 8 of 79 respondents checking that category.

- In addition, students were given the option of writing in suggested programs for training sessions. Of 79 respondents, 20 wrote in additional ideas. Of those 20, 9 were interested in MatLab training.
- **Price:** Total cost of all training sessions: $5,000.00.
- Each training session would last for 2.5 hours. Suggested hourly rate is $100/hour for the instructor. Thus, instructors would be paid $250 per session. The suggested number of total training sessions over the course of academic year 2012-2013 is 20.
- Based on survey results, at least 34 or more students would be most interested in training sessions in the following categories: qualitative data analysis software; quantitative data analysis software; citation manager software; and digital pedagogy software. I suggest training sessions for each of these categories to insure that class sizes are small enough for the instructor to give each student personal attention. We can also assume that there will be a higher level of interest for these sessions once they are underway and students are more aware of their availability.
- In addition, because of the seemingly high interest in MatLab training, I suggest sessions for this program as well. When written-in, MatLab was frequently paired with Praat.
- Because the mapping software and audio-visual content software both received over 20 responses, I suggest sessions for each category.
- Finally, though it did not receive a majority of responses, there does seem to be enough interest in computational modeling software based on general response and write-ins to warrant consideration.
- **Budget justification:** The recent survey shows that there is a clear demand for such training sessions. At less than 10% of the available budget and at approximately 1% of the anticipated revenue, this proposal is a small amount compared to the impact that it will have among the student body.

- **Microform Scanner. Proposal by P. Thistlethwaite:**
- Even with the increase in digitization, microform is still a predominant format for research materials. Dissertations pre-1990, extensive archival sets, and historical newspapers and journals still exist in great part in
microformat. This format is frequently loaned to Graduate Center library users through interlibrary loan and it appears in the Mina Rees Library collection as well (dissertations, presidential papers, journal back files).

- The Mina Rees Library currently maintains three microfilm scanners accommodating both microfilm and fiche. One Scanpro scanner purchased in 2009 features OCR digital editing, and high resolution scanning, and scanning to OCR PDF formats on an associated computer. There is no motorized feature on the Scanpro; a hand crank is available for users to position film frame-by-frame. Two KM MS 7000 MK II represent 1990s technology. They have been configured to either scan to PDF file or to print for a fee. The analog display is projected on the scanner itself. The display is often muddy, and it is not digitally editable on a desktop. Two KM MS 7000 MK II machines should be replaced by a single new digital scanner with motorized advance, digital editing features, auto-advance for microfilm, and OCR scanning to PDF. The ST Imaging microform scanner offers these features. It is appropriate for the Graduate Center’s needs, and it is competitively priced at around $12,000.

Web Location: http://www.gc.cuny.edu/it