OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AT ALEXANDRIA

SUBJECT: COMPUTING RESOURCES AND PRIORITIES FOR USE

PURPOSE: To determine a policy for the allocation of computing resources and the assignment of priorities for computer use

GENERAL POLICY

Careful planning for computing needs, additional equipment funds, and acquisition of external grants have allowed computing resources at LSUA to be increased proportionately to increased needs for computer use. However, future financial restrictions, increases in numbers of users, and changes in needs and/or technology may result in conflicts over allocation of resources. To avoid such conflicts, priorities for usage of existing and planned computing resources, as well as the allocation of these resources, must be clearly defined. These priorities must be based on the mission and the goals of the University.

The University will allocate both computing resources and the usage of those resources based on the following priorities:

1.   Instructional use by any registered LSUA student, either credit or non-credit. The registration of students is certainly related to instruction and therefore is considered to be in this first priority category.
2.   Instructional use by faculty.
3.   Administrative use.
4.   Other use (graduate courses, state or agency training, etc.) as approved by LSUA administrators.
5.   Any non-commercial use by registered LSUA students, faculty, or staff that does not fall into one of the above categories will have last priority. This includes research and use for public service.

Any other use is not allowed.

While these categories have been defined, it is agreed that maintenance and control of the computing resources at LSUA determine the very existence of any such resource. Therefore, software and hardware maintenance operations, such as backup; recovery; upgrades; development and installation, supersede all use of the computing equipment.

Evaluation of this policy will consist of reviews by the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC) and comment surveys, designed by ITAC, in each student computing

environment and sent (by Institutional Research) to each administrative budget unit. Faculty, staff and students will be actively encouraged to complete these survey forms. The surveys will be collected and tabulated by the Director of Institutional Research, and the results forwarded each regular semester to the chair of the ITAC. The ITAC will meet regularly each semester to review current computing resource policies and to discuss any problems and determine possible solutions. The committee chair will report findings and recommendations to the Chancellor after the meeting. The Chancellor will be responsible for implementation of changes in procedures or in this policy statement.