John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference

May 8th, 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

The State of Computer Science Facilities of Schools Across the United States that are Comparable to Illinois Wesleyan University

Sarah Bartz
Illinois Wesleyan University

Lisa Brown, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc

THE STATE OF COMPUTER SCIENCE FACILITIES OF SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES THAT ARE COMPARABLE TO ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Sarah Bartz, Dept. of Computer Science, IWU, Dr. Lisa Brown[*]

The purpose of this study is to compare Illinois Wesleyan's academic computer facilities with those at other comparable U.S. colleges and universities. This study also investigates factors affecting these facilities such as the methods other institutions use to deal with and plan for the constantly changing computer world. To obtain this information a survey was mailed to over 250 institutions across the U.S. that were considered comparable to IWU. These institutions include the Associated Colleges of the Midwest, the Oberlin Group, and some of the top colleges and universities in the U.S. as ranked in U.S. News and World Report's "America's Best Colleges". In order to facilitate a high return rate the survey was kept short and simple, letters were personalized whenever possible, a self-addressed and stamped return envelope was provided, and a copy of the results was promised to those who participated. Ninety-seven useable responses were received, which provided information such as: the number and type of computers and computer operating systems, the ability of students to remotely connect to the campus network, the facilities hours, the disciplines that use the facilities most, the number and type of staff, the reporting structure, the budget, the upgrading policy, and the education level of the director. These responses were then analyzed based on the size and budget of the school and compared with Illinois Wesleyan University.