I. INTRODUCTIONS
The March 15, 2001, meeting of the Education Telecommunications Council was held at Iowa Public Television and various ICN sites. The following members were present: Chet Rzonka for Robert Barak, Board of Regents; Al Bode, ISEA; James Bodensteiner, Board of Regents; John Haack for Merv Cronbaugh, IACCT; Kathy Decker, IAICU; Mary Gannon, IASB; Paul Bowers for John Hartung, IAICU; Gary Hayden, AEA Boards; David Montgomery, DE/CIANS; Kathryn O'Shaughnessy, ISEA; Pam Pfitzenmaier, IPTV; Rich Gross for Gail Sullivan, DE, and Mary Travillian, AEA Boards. Dean Borg, IASB; Gene Gardner, IACCT; Connie Maxson, SAI; Kay Runge, DE/Libraries; and Mick Starcevich, SAI, were absent.

The following visitors were also present: Mike Bacino and Tami Fujinaka, ICN; Lyneè Klaus, RTC 11; Roger Rezabek, RTC 7; Dana Rosenberg, EICCD; Stacy McConahay, RTC 14; Julie Thomas, RTC 6; Cordell Jeppsen, RTC 10; Dennis Eitmann, RTC 13; Kathy Guilgot, RTC 1; Jim Sutton, ISEA; Linda Abel, RTC 15; and Debbie Fiscus and Kathy Borlin, IPTV.

II. ISSUES
II.A. Proposed Process For Collecting Enrollment Data for ICN Video and Web-based Courses
Dana Rosenberg gave an overview of the proposed ICN Educational Classes Survey 2001 Revision data collection process. While for a number of years, the ETC has collected enrollments in ICN courses offered by K-12 and higher education institutions, the enrollments were only collected for video courses and for those courses that lasted for at least three consecutive weeks. The ETC members indicated at their December 2000 meeting that they wished to expand the definition of courses to AEAs and possibly public libraries in addition to educational institutions that were included in the past. The definition of “course/class” would be expanded to include any session where there was instruction (for credit or non/credit) including workshops. The ETC also wished to include Web-based courses. Dana revised the data collection survey to collect data that included all of these elements. In addition, her proposal would also change the data collection mechanism from paper to electronic, probably via a web-based form.

Following a lengthy discussion several suggestions were made: 1). In the checklist of variables, a new data value set be added with a date to note when data was originally input and later revised; 2). Continue with the VOSS categories for audience and subdivide the audiences into more precise categories as needed; 3). Use the variables 1-6 in the proposed sponsor sectors (include the AEAs and public libraries, assuming library data can be collected); 4). Add a Continuing Education Unit (CEU) category to credit type. Dana will work with the subcommittee to further distinguish the intended audience and credit type categories.

In addition these recommendations were proposed to the draft presented by Dana: 1). Primary Delivery Mode would be amended to Primary ICN Delivery Mode, and 2). Categories will be changed to interactive video (not ICN video), Internet, and hybrid.
**MOTION 1**
Pam Pfitzenmaier moved to accept the amended recommendation by Dana Rosenberg on data collection mechanisms, with a friendly amendment by Pam to explore a separate process of data collection for enhancements (one-time ICN video sessions) to a teachers’ class instruction. Paul Bowers seconded.

Ayes--13, Nays--0, Not voting--0; Absent--5. Motion passed unanimously.

**II.B. Legislative Update**
Tami Fujinaka provided an update on the action in the legislature to date and distributed a document outlining the bills under consideration. Pam Pfitzenmaier informed members that it is expected that the Governor will recommend a 6% cut in RTC funding and the ETC will have to face looking at reductions for upcoming fiscal year.

**II.C. ETC Process for Resolving ICN Educational Scheduling Conflicts**
Mary Gannon and Pam Pfitzenmaier provided an overview of the document on scheduling conflict and challenge resolution process, “ICN Education Video Sites Scheduling Conflict and Challenge Resolution Process.”

Various parts of the document reflect existing policy and practice. The new portions of the draft policy are page 1, item #2, which establishes definitions for a scheduling challenge (as opposed to a scheduling conflict). On page 2, item#2 at the top of the page, requires each RTC to formally review its regional scheduling priorities every three years. Page 2, item #3 at the bottom of the page, provides a specified role for the ETC in the event of a challenge.

Discussion followed. In order to provide further references for various parts of the document, Pam will make further clarification on Page 1 and identify specific administrative rules that were referenced.

**MOTION 2**
Mary Gannon moved to accept the ICN Educational Video Sites Scheduling Conflict and Challenge Resolution Process as presented, including amendments by Pam Pfitzenmaier. Pam Pfitzenmaier seconded.

Ayes--13; Nays--0; Not voting--0; Absent--5. Motion passed unanimously.

**II.D. Approval of the 2002 ICN Educational Video Scheduling Deadlines**
Pam Pfitzenmaier presented the 2002 ICN Educational Video Scheduling Deadlines to the members for their approval, noting that start dates for schools may change in the fall semester of 2002 which may require a modification of deadlines for fall 2002 scheduling.

**MOTION 3**
Gary Hayden moved to accept the 2002 ICN Educational Video Scheduling Deadlines as presented. Mary Gannon seconded.

Ayes--13; Nays--0; Not Voting--0; Absent--5. Motion passed unanimously.
II.E. Clarification of the K-12 Temporary "No Transmits"
Pam Pfitzenmaier suggested that the in-advance scheduling policy on K-12 Temporary No-Transmits be clarified and amended to include AEAs as they work closely with staff development for K-12s. Following a short discussion the following motion was made:

Motion 4
Pam Pfitzenmaier moved to clarify and amend the in-advance scheduling policy to allow AEAs to schedule K-12 Temporary No-Transmits. Gary Hayden seconded.

Ayes--13; Nays--0; Not voting--0; Absent--5. Motion passed unanimously.

II.F. ICN Video Cancellation Policy
This issue was tabled until the next ETC meeting.

II.G. Planning for the Joint ETC/RTC/Schedulers/TIE Meeting in June
Al Bode stated that he will be seeking volunteers in April to help with the planning of the joint meeting which is scheduled for June 11. He will send a message via email to ETC/RTC/Schedulers/TIE requesting volunteers to attend a planning session that will be held via the ICN during the week of April 16-20.

III. UPDATES

III.A. 21st Century Initiative
Paul Bowers and Rich Gross gave an update on the 21st Century Infrastructure Project. The Technology Scenarios Survey which was developed and sent out by the ETC to a sampling of K-6 educators last year has been redrafted and expanded and is ready to be sent out for responses. The sampling will include staff from high schools, community colleges, independent colleges/universities and Regents’ universities as well as public library staff.

Paul and Rich also reported that a tech audit project is also underway. Paul is developing a couple different reporting instruments for the tech audit project--one highlighting K-12, the other Higher Ed. Meetings have been held with the advisory committees (steering, technology, and users). Committee members will be receiving draft information from Rich concerning the vision statement and the guiding principles that were developed as a result of meetings with each committee. Eleven focus groups have been scheduled and reports from those focus groups can be found soon at www.its.state.ia.us, (click on 21st Century). Paul stated that it would be very helpful if members would forward to him any reports or internal white papers, statewide or national, that are related to this project.

For further information, contact Rich via e-mail at rdrrich@earthlink.net or Paul at paul@rdra.com.

III.B. E-Rate and ICN Video
Pam Pfitzenmaier reminded members that the ICN has been deemed a common carrier for e-rate purposes. Schools, AEAs, and libraries (eligible entities for e-rate discounts) can now receive e-rate discounts for ICN video and for long distance with the ICN as the provider.
Personnel from the ICN and IPTV had a phone conference call with staff from the School and Library Division of USAC (the entity that administers the e-rate program) to see if a statewide e-rate consortium application for ICN video would be advantageous for Iowa applicants. After lengthy discussion, SLD pointed out that there were various challenges to having Iowa submit a consortium application (most of the barriers are due to e-rate regulations). Therefore, it is planned that eligible applicants (schools, AEAs, and libraries) will continue to apply for e-rate discounts on an individual district level as they have always done.

In the fall, Pam will conduct information sessions about applying for Year 5 e-rate discounts. More details on how to file for discounts on ICN video will be provided at those sessions.

III.C  Revised ETC/RTC Planning Calendar
Pam Pfitzenmaier presented the revised month-by-month planning calendar of ETC/RTC activities each year. The document was amended to begin the calendar year with June, as that is the month that the handoff to the new ETC chair-elect occurs and the election of a new chair-elect is held.

III.D.  Statenet Project
Rich Gross provided an update on the Statenet Project. Through the Iowa Star Schools project, Iowa has sponsored a project to bring together a number of states that have statewide networks to discuss common issues, strategies, and procedures on how to work together and share resources. Statenet is now transitioning from Iowa's sole sponsorship to the national organization called CoSN, which is the Consortium for School Networking. CoSN will be sponsoring the project and a meeting of various Statenet partners was held in Washington, DC last month at the CoSN Annual Conference. There was a lot of discussion and decisions made about the next phases of the project. Rich will be reworking the recommendations and initiatives that have developed from this project between the states, and will be putting priorities on those recommendations and initiatives and forwarding them to CoSN. The project will be broadened to include not only K-12 and CoSN, but also include higher education through Educause. There will be a series of presentations over the next year at different conferences about Statenet. An entire strand will be devoted to statewide networking at the CoSN Annual Conference in 2002.

Further information can be found on the web at http://www.statenet.iptv.org.

III.E.  Children's Internet Protection Act Concerning Filtering
Pam Pfitzenmaier provided an update on the recently passed Federal legislation and the pending FCC administrative rules concerning Children's Internet Protection Act on Filtering. The FCC rules have not been released as yet but are expected by April 20th.

III.F.  Virtual High School Study
Pam Pfitzenmaier and Mary Travillian provided an update on the Virtual High School Study that is being coordinated by the Area Education Agencies and chaired by Sue Palmer of AEA15. Sue has established three sub-committees: One sub-committee is examining criteria to consider in selecting online courses for high school students. The second committee is looking at policy issues (generic, national and Iowa specific). The third committee is looking at what other states are doing in the area of virtual high
schools and online courses as well as how the various stakeholder groups in Iowa will be involved in any future development of a virtual high school. Check out http://proj1.aea15.k12.ia.us/mc/virtualed.html for updated documents. The final report from this study group should be completed in mid-April.

Al Bode informed members about a study called "Children and Computer Technology: Analysis and Recommendations." The report may be found at www.futureofchildren.org.

III.G. Governor's Strategic Initiative for Advanced Telecommunications Services
Pam Pfitzenmaier briefly discussed the initiative started by the Governor to bring broadband telecommunications to all of Iowa. He has established an “alliance” with telecommunications’ industry representatives in Iowa. Al Bode and Pam Pfitzenmaier were asked to represent educational interests and Sharman Smith was asked to represent the library community. Al and Pam will keep ETC members informed as the Alliance moves forward.

Miscellaneous Information Update
Pam Pfitzenmaier provided a summary on RTC activities last year, and a summary of ICN video usage, both comparing January 1998 and January 2001. The number of ICN sites scheduled per week doubled from 3055 to 7100. The amount of RTC funding has dropped approximately $56K in the same time period.

Paul Bowers informed members that the date and place have been changed for the IACON Conference (joint conference of the IDLA/IACT/IREN). It is being held on May 31-June 1, 2001, at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake. More information may be found on the web at http://www.iacon.org.

IV. ADJOURNMENT
The March 15, 2001, meeting of the Education Telecommunications Council adjourned at 11:50am. The next meeting of the ETC will be at the Joint ETC/RTC/Schedulers/TIE meeting on June 11, 2001, in the Maytag Auditorium at Iowa Public Television.