

## **ITC Report - 2000/2001**

### **Overview**

The Information Technology Committee (ITC) was officially formed on October 16, 2000 as one of five planning committees that report to PAC. Members of ITC were selected to represent various functional IT interests across the campus. This was done to encourage a campus perspective about IT issues. Including its first meeting held on October 24, 2000 ITC has met 18 times, including one full-day retreat to develop material for inclusion in the campus 10 year planning process.

The number of completed and in progress projects is substantial for ITC's first year of operation. What is as significant is the commitment of ITC members to bring campus solutions to all the issues considered, and to separate themselves from their individual units' particular interests.

### **Completed projects**

#### **1. Academic Information System (AIS)**

In cooperation with Vice Chancellor Hernandez, ITC initiated a readiness review headed by Carl Walsh that produced a report titled "AIS Transition Team Report": <http://ais.ucsc.edu/transition/index.html>. This project provided the campus with principles of governance and budget management that dramatically improve this project's prospects for success, and will be used by ITC in next year's work to consider implications for other campus IT projects.

#### **2. Campus cable upgrade proposal (CCU) <http://www2.ucsc.edu/cats/nts/ccu/>**

ITC reviewed CATS request for funds to bring the campus cabling infrastructure up to an acceptable standard, and after some changes ultimately supported their recommendation for funds to be committed over a 7 year period to accomplish this goal.

#### **3. Wiring upgrade - new buildings**

Due to expected construction cost overruns, ITC was advised that the campus might be reducing the quality of wiring scheduled for the new academic and research facilities being built. Working with CATS and Planning & Budget, ITC assisted in reinstating present day standard wiring for these buildings.

#### **4. Web presence**

Led by Robin Ove, a project team produced a report that described the present level of campus commitment to web support. From this, and with agreement from the committee, this project was continued to next consider how to identify web sites that are of strategic

importance to the campus. The group will also suggest what actions are needed next related to campus needs for consistency, timeliness, accuracy, relevance, and overall quality for those sites.

**5. Calendaring:** [http://planning.ucsc.edu/pac/MtgNotes/pac/attach/itc\\_calendar.htm](http://planning.ucsc.edu/pac/MtgNotes/pac/attach/itc_calendar.htm)

With financial support from the EVC, Student Affairs and BAS, ITC was able to start the implementation of Corporate Time as a campus supported calendaring system. It appears this will be in production very soon, with users paying a minimal cost recovery charge to acquire and use this service. This is targeted tentatively as a minimum three year solution to calendaring, with the expectation that experience with the tool, and changes in technology may affect future commitments in ways not now known.

**6. Financial Information System (FIS) Review**

Consultants from UC's Office of the President were engaged to consider whether the campus FIS system was providing a baseline level of services, and to advise on an appropriate approach to define and measure baseline service levels. The report provided specific recommendations intended to eliminate what were reported to be deficiencies relative to baseline, which will now inform the budget process and will start a review of reporting requirements to commence this fall.

**7. Waste disposal**

The IT coordinators identified a need for better coordination of disposal of computers and related equipment, to ensure it was happening in an environmentally friendly and cost effective manner. Lisa Rose developed a comprehensive response to this concern that has become campus policy.

**8. Review of CIO and ITC structure**

ITC developed a recommendation for the EVC that encouraged the campus to make the CIO position permanent, and to continue supporting ITC as an important campus planning committee. Options about reporting relationships and authority were considered, with the suggestion that for now the campus is well served with a CIO that is independent of operating responsibility for any of the technology units.

**9. Narrative Evaluation System**

Various ITC members worked during the year to assist Barbara Rogoff and others in an attempt to find ways to assist faculty members in narrative preparation. A software product was evaluated and rejected as too complex and inappropriate as a solution for our needs. Funding was found to support Barbara and others in the development of an internal approach to assist faculty members using existing software tools, with work to start this summer.

## **Work in progress**

ITC will continue to oversee the web presence project, and modify its scope over time as required. Central email services have been discussed, with the expectation that a full review will occur this fall. Directory Services for the campus is an issue ITC has begun to discuss, and will be connected to larger issues related to planning for portals and other steps needed to move toward the vision outlined in UC's New Business Architecture document. The Data Warehouse was discussed twice at ITC meetings this year, and a final review will be concluded in the 2001/02 fiscal year. ITC strongly supports the development of an applicant tracking system to assist with staff recruiting, and will be supporting BAS in their efforts to find ways to significantly improve turnaround time, and the quality of our recruiting presence on the web. A review of technology requirements to support instruction in its broadest sense was defined, and a committee structure proposed and approved. Next year will see the staffing of that committee and the completion of this review. ITC has begun plans for a series of campus workshop/seminar events intended to engage other groups and interested units in discussions about technology issues that relate to campus goals. The first session will be produced in collaboration with BAS, and will address aspects of the New Business Architecture principles.