Information Technology Strategic Governance Committee

Overview:

As a result of the Administration Management Review Committee (AMRC) and the IT Review Steering Committee’s IT Governance Project, we are moving forward with creating an IT Strategic Governance Committee (ITgov). This new committee is a Presidential committee within the URI committee structure.

Guiding Principles of ITgov:

• **Transparency** - Decision-making process and outcomes will be well-defined and broadly communicated. How decisions are made and who has input and decision-making authority must be clear and specific.

• **Engagement** – Decision-making processes will be inclusive and focus on university-wide IT.

• **Responsiveness** – Itgov, other existing IT committees, and IT organizations will work with the community to find ways to meet needs and remove barriers to progress.

• **Leadership** – Governance will encourage, prioritize, and advocate for IT investments and reallocations that are strategically important to the University’s future.

• **Innovation** – Governance will promote effective practices and collaborate with IT leaders to explore new and innovative uses of technology.

• **Accountability** – Governance will value, measure and promote the effective and secure use of technology and the continual improvement of services. We will lead by example.

• **Partnership** – The effective management and use of the University’s information technology requires a collaborative effort among IT groups and administrative and academic departments.
Committee Charge:

*The work of this ITgov is intended to promote effective and efficient IT services that meet constituents’ current and future needs. Outcomes should further an information technology environment that supports and facilitates the realization of campus, divisional, and departmental goals related to Teaching and Learning, Research, Outreach, and University Administration as follows:*

1. Align university strategies and IT investment by linking IT projects and initiatives to strategic priorities across IT portfolios, ensuring effectiveness while balancing risk and return.

2. Ensure collaboration, transparency and communication by providing a central, consistent method of approving and prioritizing IT projects including change management procedures.

3. Promote and enable IT best practices, strategies, and policies, including change management, in collaboration with University departments.

4. Foster accountability by establishing IT service levels, measuring IT performance, evaluating outcomes of IT initiatives and projects, and providing feedback to IT leaders and their customers.

*The work of ITgov will be conducted as follows:*

1. Review and evaluate proposals and recommend strategies, plans, and policies for University information technology that support IT and other University Strategic Plans.

2. Collaborate with senior management across Divisions and relevant advisory committees and campus constituencies.

3. New investments and reallocations in information technology will need to interface with the Strategic Budget and Planning Council (SBPC) to allocate and/or re-align IT resources to meet the needs of Teaching and Learning, Research, Outreach, and University Administration.

4. Review, evaluate and recommend possible changes to services, service levels and IT policies, as appropriate, to University leadership.

5. Assess and support mitigation strategies for IT effectiveness, Risk Management and to maintain an effective balance of distributed and shared IT services.

6. Establish and monitor measurable objectives for campus information technology, providing evaluation feedback to and from the University for major projects approved by ITgov.
Advisory To:

- University President, Provost, Vice President Administration & Finance, and the Chief Information Officer.

Meeting Frequency:

- Monthly.
- Additional meetings as needed.

Topical Committees/Council:

ITgov will interface directly with the committees below via joint personnel appointments to ensure open and clear lines of communication and complementary rather than competitive approaches to enhancing IT infrastructure, operations, and applications.

Interactions with other standing URI committees will occur as necessary and appropriate.

- Web Policy Council
- Information Security Council
- Faculty Senate Committee on Information Technologies, Infrastructure, Computing, Communications, and Networking (CITICCN)

Ad-Hoc Advisory Councils:

- Formed and disbanded as needed based on projects, initiatives, or needs for temporary coordination around a specific issue or project.

Composition:

- Committee membership should reflect the University’s constituencies as best as feasible. While committee members are selected from various URI constituencies, all members are expected to represent, first and foremost, institutional best interests rather than specific offices or units.

Tenure:

- Committee representatives will serve three-year staggered terms with option to renew.

Decision Making:

- A quorum consisting of no less than 66% of full committee membership must be present for the ITgov to take official action. Consensus is preferred, but formal votes may be taken as necessary. Minutes of all meetings will be recorded, approved, and posted for the university community broadly to consider.