### Work Session #3 - Technology to Support Research and High Performance Computing

The purpose of the work session is to identify and define initiatives that will advance the use of technology services, infrastructure, and systems in support of the research and high performance computing (HPC) at URI.

Considerations include, but are not limited to:

- How will the IT Plan align with the goals of the Academic Strategic Plan (ASP)?
  - Goal 1 – Enhance Student Success
  - Goal 2 - Expand Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work
  - Goal 3 – Grow a Global Presence
  - Goal 4 – Embrace Diversity and Social Justice
  - Goal 5 – Streamline Processes to Improve Effectiveness
  - Goal 6 – Implement a Bold Advancement Agenda
- How can the University's IT community best support the research mission of URI?
- What IT roles and services can URI create or re-purpose that will enable faculty and researchers to better meet their objectives?
  - Does this include both administrative and research computing? Other?
- What services will need to be created to support an HPC environment?

The following materials should be reviewed in advance. This should take approximately 30 minutes.

3. Read Big Data Collaborative at the University of Rhode Island: [http://web.uri.edu/bigdata/vision-statement/](http://web.uri.edu/bigdata/vision-statement/)
4. Example of University Research IT Services from Emory University: [http://it.emory.edu/about_us/rsch_health_sci/](http://it.emory.edu/about_us/rsch_health_sci/)

#### Start at 9:30 am
- Introductions, Objectives for IT Strategic Planning Work Sessions, and Opening Discussion
- Excerpt from the IT Assessment. While research is a strategic focus of URI’s mission, there are gaps in technology services and systems needed to support this mission. Of particular concern are issues around storage and backup; secure wireless; statistical tools; support and training; and lack of understanding of research needs by the central ITS department.
  **Opening Question:** How has the role of IT changed in supporting research at URI, and how can future demands for IT support of research be best met at the University? How can URI make best use of ITS, distributed (non-ITS), and external resources to meet growing demands in the future?

#### 10:30 am
**Step 1 – How does IT support the research mission and related goals in the Academic Strategic Plan? Other goals?**
- Identify and define potential IT initiatives/strategies

#### 11:30 am – Working Lunch

**Step 2 - Initiative Development**
- Defined work groups develop draft initiative language based on outcome of Step 1 (see page 2 for template)
- Work groups report out initiative(s) developed to whole group
- Discuss next steps

**Wrap-up by 1:00 pm** -- additional project information: [http://web.uri.edu/itgov/it-strategic-plan/](http://web.uri.edu/itgov/it-strategic-plan/)
Below is an example of the initiative template that we will use during the session:

**Initiative Title**

Initiative action statement.
- Description of the initiative and how it is relevant and important for the Plan.
- Include reference to IT Assessment recommendations where applicable and expected strategic outcomes to URI by implementing this initiative.

**Action Items to Implement Initiative**

1. Identifies high level steps for successfully implementing the initiative.
2. These action items are intended to provide key milestones for implementing the initiative.
3. The action items are intended for high level planning purposes. Many of the initiatives will require a comprehensive project plan that should be developed in accordance with project management best practices.

**Measures of Success**

- Questions that will be used to monitor and gauge the success of the initiative.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linkage to the Academic Strategic Plan</th>
<th>Level of Effort and Budgetary Considerations</th>
<th>Organizational Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Indicates ASP goals most directly supported by the initiative. | This represents the amount of effort required of those individuals directly tasked with implementing the initiative.  
< ‿ = Less than 1 Full Time Equivalent position (FTE), or less than 1,800 hours per year  
� = 1 FTE or 1,800 hours per year  
� + = 1.5 FTE or 2,700 hours per year  
Etc. | On a scale of one (●) to three (●●●●●), indicates the level of change the initiative will require of stakeholders and the IT community. Please see further explanation following the initiative template. |

**Key Initiative Stakeholders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative Owner</th>
<th>The initiative owner is responsible for directing the successful implementation of this initiative.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consultative Role</td>
<td>Others who have a consultative role are also identified.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>