

Dear Chair Hansford:

I write to request Senate review of the enclosed draft charter for a proposed Faculty Advisory Committee for Information Technology.

Digital technologies now permeate our daily life in substantive and ordinary ways. They also enable mission critical functions and services, support and sometimes hinder communication and productivity, and consume institutional resources.

The formation of a Faculty Advisory Committee is a step toward ensuring responsible and collaborative stewardship of information technology at UC Merced to reduce friction and increase the effective and efficient use of digital technologies across the institution for learning, teaching, service, productivity, and communication outcomes.

This committee ensures local alignment to the system-wide Academic Senate committee, [Academic Computing and Communications](#) (UCACC). It also provides a means for addressing recommendations of the FY20 OIT Administrative Review Final Report:

1. Increase executive engagement of OIT leadership in strategic planning for the University, initiating their involvement early and often on campus planning and growth efforts.
2. Create critical equipment review and refresh cycles and fund appropriately.
3. Identify methods and strategies that allow for deeper penetration of OIT in unit operations.
4. Standardize services and products offered around the campus and increase outreach to campus partners that will enhance end user understanding of OIT resources.

Finally, this committee provides the faculty voice necessary to address concerns recently articulated in a 3 July 2019 memo to EVC/Provost Camfield RE: Software Applications.

Attached, please find a draft charter describing the committee's purpose, membership, chairpersonship, and meeting schedule. In particular, thoughts on the membership, including the extent to which it facilitates committee continuity for IT projects that take multiple years, as well as the specifics of the charge are desired.

I look forward to the Senate's review.

Sincerely,

Ann Kovalchick

Associate Vice Chancellor for Information Technology and CIO

CHARGE
FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

Purpose

The Faculty Advisory Committee for Information Technology ensures the representation of academic and curricular interests in all matters involving the uses and impacts of information and communications technology. The committee also advises the Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer concerning the acquisition, usage, and support of information and communications technologies and related policy issues at the University, and thereby provides a forum for the following:

- Comment and review of information technology initiatives resulting from campus planning priorities that impact the academic experience.
- Planning for, and advising on, the execution of those priorities.
- Facilitating the information exchange and relationship building essential to effective technology services and resource allocations.
- Facilitating coordination points between broader University of California system-wide information technology mandates and policies related to information security and agenda items of the University Committee on Academic Computing and Communications (UCACC)

A key outcome of the Faculty Advisory Committee for Information Technology is that both the Office of Information Technology and the Academic Senate are aware of each group's priorities and initiatives and are involved formatively in executing that work.

Membership

The Faculty Advisory Committee for Information Technology is composed of 6 members:

- Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer
- Deputy Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer
- One faculty representative designated by the Executive Committee of each school to serve staggered, two year terms
- The Senate's representative to the [University Committee on Academic Computing and Communications](#) (UCACC)

The UCACC representative will report on the committee's activities to Divisional Council.

Chair

The Faculty Advisory Committee for Information Technology is chaired by the Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer.

Meeting Schedule

The Faculty Advisory Committee for Information Technology meets at least three times per year, ideally at different points of the academic year.