

First, since my committee is relatively new, I'd like to start with a brief history

In April of 2014 the Senate Executive committee established the Senate Information Technology committee and charged this committee with the responsibility to review, make recommendations, initiate, and participate in the formulation of policy and procedures for the following B list items:

As related to Information Technology:

1. Allocation and distribution of unrestricted funds made available to the university for discretionary allocation in support of research or scholarly work (III-F-2-b-i).
2. Allocation and utilization of the university's human and physical resources (III-F-4-b-iii).

Strictly speaking this committee is not tasked with governance over any existing IT organizations on campus.

The Senate IT committee was formed in response to the extremely low scores from faculty and administrators on the 2014 president's evaluation question "The executive team has created an IT environment that meets my work needs". The newly formed committee attempted to address several specific key concerns through senate proposal 20-15 but this was ultimately disapproved by the Administration in February of 2015.

Now, backing up a bit, In September 2014, Provost Max Seel constituted an IT Governance Committee based on the IT governance model in use at the time at the University of Michigan.

This is a standing committee that acts as a liaison between IT, the Provost, and the campus community. Part of their charge is to advise the Provost and the Budget Office concerning strategic planning and spending related to Information Technology.

When this IT Governance committee was formed, a seat was made available to a member of the senate and this seat has, by practice, been filled by the chair of the Senate IT committee, currently me. This makes for a very convenient conduit for the Senate IT committee to attend to its assigned responsibilities. Having a fairly unrestricted communication channel into central IT and its governing body allows for us to initiate and participate in the formulation of IT policy that directly affects the faculty and staff here at Michigan Tech and their ability to effectively perform their research, teaching, and other job duties.

With that said, my report this evening is a highlight of the recent meetings of the IT Governance committee. The IT Governance committee has met twice since the start of the semester. In an effort to be more predictable, consistent, and produce quality deliverables, Central IT has requested assistance from the IT Governance committee to help them determine the best way to engage customer input and feed it into a project prioritization and approval process. This development of this project prioritization process is actively under development at this time.

Currently IT considers an initiative with two or more of the following characteristics to be a project:

- It requires greater than 80 hours of work to complete;
- It will cost more than \$25,000;
- It has duration of longer than six months;
- It has high cross-functional Impact where participation is required from more than one IT delivery team (including contractors) and;
- It has high visibility within the University community by impacting more than one academic or administrative unit.

IT is working to make a distinction between mandatory projects and discretionary projects and it is the latter which with they request assistance. As of today IT has 44 active projects but 21 of these are on hold and not being worked on. Five are substantially finished being 80% or more complete.

In reviewing failed proposal 20-15 I note that many of the key concerns, major issues, and proposed improvements are not yet on the agenda of the IT Governance committee. While an equitable prioritization mechanism is being discussed we are not addressing elements such as strategic planning, annual needs assessment, increased transparency, and the like.

For my committee to better focus on what is important to the campus community, in regards to technology, I encourage you, my fellow senators, to reach out to your constituents to open a dialogue about their technology needs and concerns and forward any feedback received directly to me for deliberation by my committee. With your assistance we can improve the lines of communication from our constituents, who depend on technology to perform their job, and those who provide this necessary and critical resource.

Thank you.