

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY POLICY COMMITTEE  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY - PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE  
STRATEGIC GOALS AND INITIATIVES FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

In support of the Core Mission and Vision described in the IPFW Strategic Plan, the Information Technology Policy Committee has developed the following Strategic Goals and Initiatives for Information Technology.

**GOALS**

**Students**

To prepare IPFW students for technology-related challenges in their personal and professional lives, IPFW must ensure that students can use information-technology tools effectively to gather, produce, and disseminate knowledge. Specifically, IPFW students must be able to:

- Search, retrieve, and evaluate the relevance and authority of information
- Use information technology to investigate and solve problems
- Use information technology to communicate and collaborate with colleagues
- Adapt to emerging technologies
- Understand ethical issues related to information technology
- Employ information-technology tools that are used in their discipline and profession
- Recognize the possibilities and limitations of information technology, and then select appropriate materials and methods

**Faculty**

To enable faculty in a broad range of disciplines to meet their responsibilities in traditional and nontraditional educational environments, IPFW must ensure the availability of equipment, software, human resources, information resources, and policies sufficient in power and versatility to allow faculty to carry out their professional responsibilities in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service.

**Administrative and Other Staff**

To enable administrative and other staff to provide services efficiently and effectively, IPFW must provide support for broad access to data, rich functionality in administrative systems, support for maintenance and enhancement of services, and training programs designed to promote excellence in the utilization of information technology.

## **IPFW STRATEGIC INITIATIVES**

### **Supporting Students**

Provide broad student access to available computing tools and information resources, including tools which support communication and collaboration with colleagues.

Support training in the use of computing tools and in methods for searching, retrieving, and evaluating the relevance and authenticity of information.

Support projects to improve student academic success through the use of information technology, such as support for academic advising, development of academic skills, and exploration of career opportunities.

### **Supporting Faculty**

Provide sufficient power and flexibility in desktop, central, and classroom facilities, technologies, and services to support faculty in a broad range of disciplines. Provide support services for these facilities, equipment, and technologies, including quick-response services available at all class times.

Assure easy access to information-technology specialists who can effectively provide consultation and training which encompasses common, application-based, and discipline-specific uses of technology.

Support access to specialized training and assistance in the application of information technology to teaching in traditional and nontraditional educational environments.

Establish a system of incentives, e.g. release time for course development, staff assistance, overload stipends, which promotes the use of information technology in teaching, scholarship, and service.

### **Supporting Administrative Services**

Provide broad access to data, under appropriate security and access controls, including access by students to personal data and institutional data.

Develop systems which make data available to offices responsible for processes and decisions, avoid redundancy in the collection and processing of data, and support compliance with laws protecting the privacy of data about individuals.

Support the continuous improvement of administrative processes, addressing concerns for both efficiency and effectiveness.

### **Supporting the Institution**

Maintain currency in information technology through development of maintenance and

equipment replacement processes that encompass all types of computing and information resources supported by the campus.

Provide access to a range of software which supports communication and collaboration among all faculty and staff, including electronic mail, Internet access, group scheduling, and similar systems.

Maintain currency in the application of information technology to academic and administrative services through support for orientation and training programs which enhance the information-technology skills of faculty and staff, development of hiring guidelines related to use of technology, and certification programs which recognize proficiency in the use of technology. Information-technology specialists, regardless of their primary organizational home, should be appropriately compensated for their responsibilities in this area.

Provide an appropriate balance of both open access and special-purpose computing facilities, with support services that are appropriate for the uses of each facility and documented in support services agreements.

Support the principle of computational diversity by providing a broad range of information technologies designed to prepare students for careers in the spectrum of professional opportunities and to support faculty and staff who have needs which require the use of specialized kinds of computing and information technology.

Provide standards for information technology which guide the selection of equipment, tools, and resources. Standards should give preference to connectivity, reliability, and economy while also allowing the flexibility needed to encompass additional technologies needed to support recognized university programs.

Provide access to specialists, in the kind of Information Center recommended in SR 95-25, or through other means, who can provide assistance in information retrieval from on-campus systems and off-campus information resources.

### **Supporting Governance and Coordination of Information Technology**

Develop effective processes for coordination and management of resources allocated to academic, administrative, and general information technology. Coordination should encompass the committees and task forces which provide advice and establish policy, as well as administrative offices and other providers of services, in order to maximize the benefits of these resources.

Develop processes for broad consultation in assessing the state of information technology at IPFW and for use of assessment results in revising the Information Technology Strategic Plan and guiding enhancements in information technology on the campus.