

**April 14, 2006**

**TO: Associate Vice Chancellor Virginia Sapiro**

**FROM: Academic Staff Executive Committee**

**RE: Information Technology Review**

**Background:**

In her letter of March 1, 2006 Interim Provost Sapiro charged ASEC and other campus leadership groups to participate in an internal review of the IT situation on campus. In this charge we were asked to respond to four basic questions:

1. Are we positioned to serve the IT needs we face as a first class public research university in the coming years? What are our primary strengths and the main problem areas we should address?
2. What changes should we consider in preparing for a new CIO?
3. What ideas and recommendations should we share with the new CIO to assist in formulating agendas for the future?
4. Is the position of CIO designed appropriately for this campus? Is the position sufficiently attractive to allow us to recruit the best possible person for our campus?

**ASEC Response**

The ASEC IT subgroup met on March 30 and drafted the following brief response for review by ASEC, approved on April 7, 2006.

The Academic Staff Executive Committee endorses the report of the External IT Review Committee. We believe they did a marvelous job in understanding and encapsulating IT issues on the Madison campus.

We would, however, like to add a few comments to emphasize parts of the report as follows:

- The CIO must have campus level authority and be recognized as having responsibility for leading and facilitating collaboration among all campus IT services.
- The CIO must have a vision for and the best interests in mind of the Madison campus, including when negotiating with UW System
- The CIO must promote a culture of complementary not competitive services
- The CIO must be able to create a strong shared governance advisory structure in which campus interests drive campus IT. The potential to move current ad hoc IT committees to subcommittees of the Information Technology Committee should be explored.
- The CIO must develop a campus-based strategic plan
- The CIO must be given a charge to review all funding and business models for IT, at all levels (campus, departmental, or DoIT) in order to reduce duplication of services. This reduction of duplication must also support the ability of campus and individual units to meet unique needs of campus departments and programs.
- The CIO must help us adapt the current ways of teaching to the emerging ways of learning.

The bottom line for ASEC is that academic staff is deeply affected by IT on this campus, as employees who work in IT areas, as employees (instructors and researchers) who depend on IT services, or both. Finding the right person to fill a correctly-defined CIO position will be critical to this campus for many years to come.