

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE**

**Senate Committee on Information Technology
(Final; Information)**

IT.18.01 2017-2018 Annual Report

The Senate Committee on Information Technology (IT) met six times during the 2017-2018 academic year (September 12, 2017; October 10, 2017; November 14, 2017; February 13, 2018; March 13, 2018; and April 17, 2018). Details of committee meetings may be found in the particular meeting minutes.

Issues brought to the attention of the IT Committee in 2017-2018 include:

Strengths

- Development of Research IT Support: The Research Portal rolled out by Technology Services during the Spring 2018 semester represents a much-needed central resource for researchers on the UIUC campus, and the other facets of support (user services, data stewardship, visualization, and analytics among others) represent an infrastructural boon to researchers.
- Use of Technology Services to accelerate data analytics for student aid and self-service assistance information.
- The ongoing task of mitigating security threats and attacks and communicating issues, and the two-factor authentication (2FA) that is being rolled into many campus functions.

Challenges

- Teaching Capacity: It is increasingly apparent that we are on the brink of a much higher demand for blended classroom learning, online classes for distance education, as well as the capacity to offer on-campus students online classes. The systems now in place are only marginally adequate, and this may create a substantial capacity and capability problem in the future.
- Integration of Services: Technology Services, colleges, and departments are still in need of a consistent service capacity. Some departments and service centers enable education and research functions in exemplary fashion while other are unclear on who has basic responsibility for facilities and do not maintain equipment and capacity in a timely fashion. This appears to be a major challenge of integration among the colleges and units on campus.
- Virtual Presence/Teleconferencing: The University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign lags well behind its peer institutions in its capacity for virtual presence, in both group and individual settings. Our systems need to provide an up-to-date capacity for both on-campus and global virtual presence.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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