CPI Meeting Agenda
March 5, 2014 (11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.)
Rudder Tower, room 601

(11:30 – 11:45)  **Lunch**

(11:45 – 11:55)  **Call to order/Opening remarks** – Dr. Niall Slowey, CPI Chair

(11:55 – 12:15)  **The Future of IT at Texas A&M University** – Mr. Adam Mikeal, Director of IT for the College of Architecture

(12:15 – 12:30)  **Open forum discussion** – Moderated by CPI Chair

(12:30 – 12:45)  **Federal Public Access Mandates and the Emerging Need for Data Repositories**
– Dr. Bruce Herbert, Director, Office of Scholarly Communications, Sterling C. Evans Library

(12:45 – 1:00)  **Open forum discussion** – Moderated by CPI Chair

(1:00 – 1:15)  **Other business** – Dr. Niall Slowey, CPI Chair

(1:15)  **Adjournment**

Attachments:  The Future of IT at Texas A&M University (pp. 2 – 3)
March CPI newsletter (pp. 4 - 7)

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**2013-14 CPI roster:** Chair — Niall Slowey, Geosciences  •  Vice Chair — Mary Bryk, COALS  •  Past Chair — Reza Langari, Engineering  •  AgriLife – Non-COALS — Jamie Foster, Ronald Randel, Travis Whitney  •  Architecture — Walter Peacock  •  BCD — Jay Groppe  •  Bush School — Lori Taylor  •  Business — Arun Sen  •  COALS — Clinton Allred, Joseph Awika, Bhimu Patil, Penny Riggs, Susanne Talcott, Heather Wilkinson  •  Education — Jeffrey Liew  •  Engineering — Jaime Grunlan, Ricardo Gutierrez-Osuna, Tony Hsieh, Daniel Jimenez, Lawrence Rauchwerger, Raffaella Righetti, Victor Ugaz  •  Geosciences — Steve DiMarco  •  IBT/PHARM/RCHI — Rod Dashwood  •  Liberal Arts — Mary Meagher, Richard Street, Teresa Wilcox  •  Medicine — Helene Andrews-Polimenis, Vytas Bankaitas  •  Science — Wolfgang Bangerth, Jean-Luc Guermoud, Paul Hardin, Emil Straube, Terry Thomas  •  SRPH — Eva Shipp  •  TEES Non-COE — Richard Mercier  •  TAMU at Galveston — Joan Mileski  •  TAMU at Qatar — Anuj Gupta  •  TTI — Lance Bullard, Beverly Kuhn, Joe Zietsman  •  University Libraries — Sandy Tucker  •  Veterinary Medicine — Joe Arosh, Sanjay Reddy, Loren Skow

*The CPI is sponsored annually through funding from Texas A&M University Division of Research, Texas A&M Health Science Center, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute*
Introduction

Public universities face significant challenges in today’s society. The cost of higher education, its perceived effectiveness for all students who enroll, the lack of a strong narrative about the role of research in education and the larger community are just three of the challenges we need to find ways to overcome. Simultaneously, changes in our culture have fundamentally altered the technological landscape in which universities operate. The rise of mobile computing, social media, cloud computing, and the digitization of information have permanently changed our society and the nature of education. Consumerization of technology has ratched expectations of our faculty and students to an unprecedented level.

In this new environment, innovative technological solutions are needed to help address the challenges public universities face. An engaged, integrated information technology (IT) strategy must enable Texas A&M to create a competitive advantage in teaching, research, and outreach. Innovative IT can augment existing research, enable new types of research, attract superstar faculty, allow new forms of student engagement, enhance student success, increase public access to common goods, and help the university impact the local community, state, nation, and world.

As stated in the Action 2015 strategic plan:

[We must] make new, original decisions and investments that will knit together the traditional elements of Education First [teaching, research and service] and enable the innovations required to take Texas A&M to new levels of performance, productivity and impact.¹

The External Landscape

Radical changes have greatly affected the external IT landscape. These changes include:

- **An explosion in mobile devices**: Smartphones and tablets were uncommon devices just ten years ago; today students and employees frequently carry multiple wireless devices with them regularly.² ³

- **The ubiquity of online information**: A decade ago, research for a student meant a trip to the library. Today, a student is more likely to hop on Google or Wikipedia and the library is seen as a place to hangout and work on group projects.⁴ ⁵

- **The changing social landscape**: The rapid growth of social networks like Facebook and Twitter have dramatically changed how students engage with others -- leading to dramatically changed expectations regarding classroom interaction.⁶ ⁷ ⁸

- **The consumerization of technology**: IT services like storage, email, or video conferencing no longer require permission or assistance from IT support staff. Students and faculty can simply create a free account with Dropbox, Gmail, Skype, or many other cloud services to fulfill their needs.⁹

The Organizational Landscape

Currently, Texas A&M University has a highly distributed model of IT which has led to a proliferation of self-sustaining silos of service. These silos have historically been characterized by valuing:

- Local unit, budget, and resources
- Local management of infrastructure and commodity services
- Stability and status quo over rapid change and flexibility
- Communication within the local unit over inter-unit communication

These values have resulted in a culture with many duplicated services and little incentive to cooperate. Efforts to provide centralized services are viewed with skepticism, distrust, and lack of mutual respect. Distributed IT resources make the coordination of services at the university level difficult. Although some commodity services have been successfully moved to central operations, many centralized services have low adoption rates (e.g. email, virtual machines) or poorly defined operational boundaries (e.g. NetID vs. SSO identity models). The distributed nature of our operations is more expensive to maintain, and inhibits a unified IT vision. This reduces our ability to devote a greater portion of our capacity to innovation at a time when our users and the environment demand it.

In 2013, The Texas A&M University System contracted with Deloitte to assess IT across all universities and agencies. In their 29 recommendations Deloitte consistently advised the consolidation of commodity IT services, and a shift to cloud services where appropriate. The System has implemented a number of these recommendations already, and is moving forward with others.

Our Vision: A Culture of IT Innovation

Our vision is to create a competitive advantage for Texas A&M through a culture of collaborative IT innovation. We believe innovative IT can provide the university with a distinct competitive advantage in many of its key priorities, such as recruitment, student engagement, graduation rates, and research that impacts the state, nation and world.

The level of innovation we envision requires a genuine strategic partnership between IT and our customers. By working with the entire community to create effective solutions, we leverage IT to create a world-class institution.

References

³ Mobile growth is about to be staggering. By Kevin Kelleher. (20 Feb 2013). In CNN Money.
⁴ Students’ Use of Research Content in Teaching and Learning: A report for the Joint Information Systems Council (JISC). (September 2009).
⁵ The digital age is forcing libraries to change. By Andrea Peterson. (7 Aug 2013). In The Washington Post.
Overview

The IT Advisory Committee was initiated by Dr. Pierce Cantrell, Vice President and Associate Provost for IT. The committee is charged to:

- Increase communication across the campus IT community
- Collect input from members’ departments and collaborate to identify common IT issues on campus
- Review and evaluate solutions and methods to help mitigate specific risks.
- Provide recommendations to help form security policy and operational decisions.
- Relay information to their represented areas and to the IT Forum.

You may send questions or comments to the committee at itac@tamu.edu

FY 2014 Goals

1. Create a strategic plan for IT at Texas A&M University that is aligned with the university priorities of teaching, research and service.
2. Create and implement an IT communications plan.
3. Create and recommend an IT Governance model for Texas A&M University.
4. Create a common Tier 1 service desk for campus using new service desk software and VoIP.

ITAC Members

ITAC members are appointed by their units, and represent every academic college and major administrative division. Additionally, Texas A&M IT is represented by four ex-officio members.

Colleges

Bush School of Government and Public Service
Ron Szabo

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Tom Lyster

College of Architecture
Adam Mikeal (Vice-Chair)

College of Education and Human Development
Becky Carr

College of Geosciences
Jim Rosser

College of Liberal Arts
Carl McKneely

College of Science
Henrik Schmiediche

College of Veterinary Medicine
Rick Young

Dwight Look College of Engineering
Mike Nelson

Health Science Center
Scott Honea

Mays Business School
John Norton

School of Law
Chad Ballenger

University Libraries
Bill Chollett (Secretary)

Campuses

TAMU at Qatar
Kevin Davis

TAMU at Galveston
John Kovacevic

Administrative Divisions

Department of Athletics
Mark Harris

Division of Administration
Jim Culver

Division of Finance
Andy Bland

Division of Marketing & Communications
Erick Beck

Division of Research
Aaron Brender

Division of Student Affairs
David Sweeney (Chair)

Office of the Provost
Juan Garza

Ex officio

Texas A&M IT Computing & Information Services
Cheryl Cato

Texas A&M IT Networking & Information Security
Willis Marti

Texas A&M IT Computing & Information Services
Allison Oslund

Texas A&M IT Instructional Technology Services
Jim Snell
Included in this issue:

- Summary of CPI EC meetings with administration
- CPI-Sponsored Open Forum on Draft Proposal Re: F&A Earnings
- SAVE THE DATE – 2014 Undergraduate Research Mini-Symposium
- IT Advisory Committee (ITAC) Survey
- Update from the Texas A&M Institute for Advanced Studies (TIAS)
- Climate Workshops (March 10th and March 17th)
- Texas A&M National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) Collaborative Research Grant Program
- Pending reports from CPI members serving on external committees
- Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities
PIs are encouraged to contact their elected college/unit representatives to bring forward any issues for the Council to address during the monthly meetings. PIs can also contact me directly at slowey@ocaean.tamu.edu or 845-8478.

**Summary of CPI EC meetings with administration**

The CPI Executive Committee (EC) will meet next with Interim Texas A&M President and Provost on March 17th. The CPI EC will also hold its next monthly meeting with invited research administration representatives from AgriLife, HSC, Texas A&M, TEES and TTI on April 2nd.

Lastly, the CPI EC is scheduled to meet with The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents Chairman, Phil Adams and Regent Charles Schwartz on March 24th from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Summaries of the aforementioned meetings will be provided in the April CPI newsletter.

**CPI-Sponsored Open Forum on Draft Proposal Re: F&A Earnings**

As reported by the CPI membership through their respective college/unit listservs, Dr. Glen Laine, Vice President for Research at Texas A&M University, came to the February 12th CPI meeting to discuss and answer questions relating to the draft proposal entitled “Research Development Fund: A New Model for the Use of Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Earnings for Texas A&M” (click [here](#) for the proposal, and [here](#) for the meeting video).

At previous CPI and CPI Executive Committee meetings and again at the February 12th meeting, PIs have repeatedly asked pertinent questions regarding the draft “Research Development Funds” proposal that can only be addressed by the Deans of Ag and Engineering and the Provost, since they or their designees were the primary negotiators and authors of the draft proposal.

The following individuals have accepted an invitation to participate in a CPI-sponsored open forum/panel discussion on March 7th (2-4 p.m.) in Rudder 601, which will provide PIs an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments directly related to the aforementioned draft proposal:

- Dr. M. Katherine Banks, Director of the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station and Vice Chancellor and Dean of Engineering, Texas A&M University;
- Dr. Bill Dugas, Acting Vice Chancellor and Dean for Agriculture and Life Sciences, The Texas A&M University System;
- Dr. Glen A. Laine, Vice President for Research, Texas A&M University;
- Dr. Karan L. Watson, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Texas A&M University

While attendance is open for any PI to attend and an RSVP isn’t necessary, if PIs could [click here](#) to let us know if they plan to attend, it will help us ensure there is adequate seating for everyone.

**SAVE THE DATE – 2014 Undergraduate Research Mini-Symposium**

Interested in increasing your research and scholarly activity? Thinking of moving in a new direction or adding a new dimension to your projects?

On Wednesday, March 19, 2014 (2 – 5 p.m. – [click here for flyer](#)) in the Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Building Auditorium, come hear eminent faculty in Humanities, Social Science, Engineering and Science discuss their strategies and priorities for integrating undergraduates into their scholarship team. Discover how experienced undergraduate scholars view their experiences. Please register for this free event at [ers.tamu.edu](http://ers.tamu.edu). For questions, contact Ms. Sandra Chavarria – [schavarria@tamu.edu](mailto:schavarria@tamu.edu).
IT Advisory Committee (ITAC) Survey
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The IT Advisory Committee (ITAC) recently completed an IT Vision for Texas A&M University. http://itacwiki.tamu.edu/Strategic_Vision.

This spring, ITAC will present the IT Vision to various committees across campus and solicit feedback. They will present to CPI during the March 5th meeting. If you cannot attend, but would like to provide feedback please complete the short, two-question survey located at https://tamu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9vRUZOU76j5zsiR. You can see a copy of their power point presentation and handout at http://itacwiki.tamu.edu/Communication_Plan#Meeting_Schedule.

Update from the Texas A&M Institute for Advanced Study (TIAS)
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In February The Texas A&M Institute for Advanced Study (TIAS) inducted its second class of TIAS Faculty Fellows at a black tie Gala on campus on February 7, 2014. Also inducted was Dr. Vernon Smith, the 2002 Nobel Prize winner in Economics, who was in the first class but could not make the induction ceremony in 2013. A speech at the Gala on behalf of the second class was made by Dr. Roger Howe, a mathematician from Yale but a TIAS Faculty Fellow in the College of Education and Human Development, who praised TIAS for its promotion of collaboration across fields of study, which he attributes to promoting significant advances in man's knowledge. Click here for a link to the New York Times article about the induction of the second class.

Two members of the second class were awarded major honors after they were selected as TIAS Faculty Fellows, substantiating that TIAS’s selection process is merit based and is working as planned. Dr. Leif Andersson, visiting from Sweden, won the Wolf Prize (an award on par with the Nobel Prize) in Agriculture in January, and Dr. Robert Levine, probably best known at A&M for being the editor of the five volumes of the Norton Anthology of American Literature, was awarded the Hubbell Medal in literature in December 2013.

The TIAS Gala was preceded by a brunch for TIAS Advocates at which the importance of TIAS to A&M’s future as a world academic leader was discussed by Nobel Prize winners, some on the A&M faculty and two visiting A&M as TIAS Faculty Fellows. Former President of Texas A&M University, Dr. Ray Bowen, returned to campus to be moderator of the Nobel panel.

A public lecture was presented by Dr. Peter Liss, a TIAS Faculty Fellow from the U.K. in the Department of Oceanography, followed by a tribute banquet on February 14 to honor Dr. Liss given by the College of Geosciences.

Contact:
Dr. Clifford Fry - cfry@tamu.edu or 979-458-5723

Climate Workshops (March 10th and 17th)
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Mark your calendars for one of two Climate Workshops on March 10th and March 17th from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (box lunches provided). Locations TBD (likely in Eller O&M on March 10th). The workshop schedule is available at http://cpi.tamu.edu/resources/2014-climate-workshops. Please RSVP by March 7th to gws@geos.tamu.edu with the date of the workshop you plan to attend.

Contact:
Dr. Gunnar Schade – gws@geos.tamu.edu or 979-458-5723

Texas A&M National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) Collaborative Research Grant Program
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A call for Letters of Intent has been issued for the 2014 Texas A&M–NSFC Collaborative Research Grant Program. This newly developed program between Texas A&M University and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) aims to encourage research collaborations between faculty at Texas A&M and faculty at Chinese universities or research institutes. The program is designed to facilitate faculty-to-faculty collaboration and deepen research ties, with the aim to further basic scientific research that can foster joint applications to extramural funding programs.

The announcement at the website for the Division of Research gives details about this program, including priority research areas and submission processes. The due date for letters of intent is Monday, March 24, 2014, 11:59 p.m. (CST). Full proposals must be submitted to Texas A&M and NSFC by Monday, May 5, 2014, 11:59 p.m. (CST).

This program is open to all areas of research that are mutually supported by NSFC and Texas A&M. Research areas supported by NSFC are described in its annual program guide and more generally at NSFC’s English website.

Awards, which will offer up to $25,000 in support for the Texas A&M faculty member and up to 50,000 RMB for the Chinese collaborator, must involve a joint research project directed by two principal investigators—one from Texas A&M and one from a Chinese university or research institution.

The program is open to all tenured or tenure-track faculty at Texas A&M University. The principal investigator in China must have a current NSFC grant.

Please contact Ms. Monica Holder (m-holder@tamu.edu) if you have questions regarding the program.

Pending reports from CPI representatives serving on external committees (CPI representative)

 Council for the Built Environment (Paul Hardin)
 Council for the Strategic Budgeting and Strategic Reallocation Sub-Council (Mary Bryk)
 Email Selection Advisory Committee (Terry Thomas)
 EPIK-Maestro Working Group (Beverly Kuhn, Terry Thomas, Victor Ugaz)
 Federal Demonstration Partnership (Wolfgang Bangerth)
 Graduate Student Copyright/IP Policies Review Task Force (Jean Luc-Guermond, Sandy Tucker)
 Intellectual Property Constituent Committee (Wolfgang Bangerth)
 Laboratory Safety Advisory Committee (Susanne Talcott)
 PricewaterhouseCoopers Administrative Review Advisory Committee (Lawrence Rauchwerger, Eva Shipp, Heather Wilkinson)
 SRS PI/Faculty Advisory Committee (Terry Thomas, Lawrence Rauchwerger, Niall Slowey)
 Texas A&M University Research Administration Committee (Terry Thomas)
 Texas A&M University Multidisciplinary Accounting Committee (Steve DiMarco)
 Transportation Services Advisory Committee (Sandy Tucker)
 University Research Council (Clint Allred)

See the full list of CPI members serving on external committees and committee descriptions at goo.gl/rP41nF.

Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities

Up-to-date limited submission proposal opportunities, including deadlines for required letters of intent, are available on the website of the Division of Research at vpr.tamu.edu/researchdevelopment/funding/lsp/lsp/#limited-submission-proposal-opportunities.