

IT Strategy Board Charter

Purpose

The purpose of the IT Strategy Board is to:

- Review key developments in information technology for potential impacts to, and adoption by, the University of Washington.
- Recommend critical opportunities and actions that will best position the UW to adopt strategic information technologies to support and advance its teaching, learning, research, and service missions.
- Review the breadth and scope of the UW's information technology (IT) portfolio to recommend appropriate investments in new capabilities to support the University's core missions, and to realize efficiencies and cost savings in its business operations.
- Make recommendations to the President and Provost about strategic plans, policies, and funding priorities for information technology at the University.

Scope

The scope of the IT Strategy Board encompasses all activities of UW Information Technology (UW-IT), including major projects, service improvements, and infrastructure investments. In addition, the IT Strategy Board makes recommendations about university-wide IT strategies, investments, projects and initiatives.

Structure

The IT Strategy Board is one of three IT governance boards:

- **IT Strategy Board** provides strategic direction on information technology at the University.
- **IT Service Investment Board** makes recommendations about services provided by UW-IT, including priorities and funding levels for major UW-IT projects.
- **IT Service Management Board** ensures alignment of UW-IT services with institutional IT strategy and priorities, as identified by the other two governance boards, and optimizes the design, delivery, operation and sourcing of those services.

The IT Strategy Board identifies high-level strategic direction, opportunities and policies to be used in making decisions about UW-IT services and projects. This strategic direction is used to guide the recommendations of both the IT Service Investment Board and the IT Service Management Board. Similarly, the IT Strategy Board considers issues and recommendations brought to it by the IT Service Investment Board.

Background

An Enterprise Risk Management review determined that maintaining the central IT organization's focus on strategic priorities is especially difficult in times of diminishing resources. The IT Strategy Board's purpose is to ensure that UW-IT, as the University's central IT organization, remains focused

on providing the most important services to the University and making critical investments in future technologies. The IT Strategy Board's recommendations should reflect broad trends in technology and computing.

The establishment of three boards to govern IT at the strategic, project and service levels is intended to make decision-making about information technology across the University more comprehensive and holistic. It also recognizes that investments in IT are to a certain degree fungible between funding for new projects and capabilities, and for enhancements to existing services.

This new structure builds upon what has been working within the UW-IT governance structure over the past three years, while providing greater clarity in roles and responsibilities. The IT Service Investment Board replaces the IT Costing Oversight Group, which in turn replaced the President's Working Group on Information Technology. The new structure broadens the role of the IT Service Investment Board to include the entire UW-IT project portfolio. In establishing the IT Service Management Board, the new structure formalizes a role for both University IT staff and administrators in reviewing and making recommendations about the provisioning, delivery and management of UW-IT services. The IT Strategy Board is a new group that is being added to focus specifically on the most strategically important IT issues facing the University.

Membership

The IT Strategy Board is made up of UW faculty and administrators who broadly represent the University's key missions of education, research, healthcare and service, as well as the University's administrative operations. The membership should not be thought of as roles based, but instead as reflecting 'thought leaders' across the institution, encompassing teaching, basic and applied research, and healthcare. The membership includes:

- Faculty from across the institution reflecting disciplines such as data intensive science
- College administration concerned about the impact of IT on teaching, learning and research
- Healthcare and biomedical researchers involved in planning and support
- Administrators concerned with the ability of the University to drive administrative efficiencies throughout the institution

The IT Strategy Board is advisory to the President and Provost. The term of appointment is indefinite, or as agreed upon by the President and Provost. The Chair of the IT Strategy Board is appointed annually by the Vice President for UW-IT and CIO.

The IT Strategy Board is supported by the Office of the Vice President for UW-IT and CIO.

Meetings

The IT Strategy Board meets three times annually, and may participate in other activities as needed.