

IT Governance and CU: What You Should Know ^[1]

August 10, 2018 by [UIS Communications](#) ^[2]

With technology playing a central role in how CU will accomplish our organizational mission now and in the future, University Information Services (UIS) and the Offices of Information Technology (OIT) from each campus have worked together to establish a new, collaborative Information Technology (IT) Governance model. The model aims to ensure strategic alignment across our campuses and the System office in order to maximize the benefits we expect from investments in technology.

The [CU IT Governance Committee](#) ^[3] members include Chief Financial Officers and Chief Information Officers from each campus and System Administration.

What is IT Governance?

IT Governance is a set of processes that ensure effective and efficient use of IT resources to meet organizational goals. An IT governance model establishes who is empowered to evaluate, prioritize, select and fund competing IT investment options, as well as oversee the implementation of IT solutions and measure benefits.

IT Governance will allow CU to:

- Align cross-campus IT investments with long-term strategic goals.
- Provide a structure to support common efforts including the maintenance and evolution of central, common systems, such as Research and Grants, Human Capital Management, Finance, Advancement, Student Services, and others
- Ensure proper oversight and execution of high-risk, high-dollar projects with multi-campus reach while balancing security and risk implications in collaboration with the Office of Information Security (OIS).
- Measure progress toward longer term, strategic goals (3-5 years) where technology is in play.

Why do we need IT Governance?

CU needs a structure to ensure decisions made regarding technology investments best serve our long-term strategic vision. The IT Governance structure also allows CU to better mitigate the risk to the University related to large IT initiatives that impact how we operate on a day-to-day basis. The new governance model will enable CU to successfully execute and realize the expected benefits of our IT investments.

How are we implementing IT Governance?

Along with defining the IT Governance Committee (its role, duties, and membership), strategic and annual planning has been ongoing with campus involvement. These plans will provide insight into UIS priorities, as well as clarify UIS's role within CU and help with planning funding, staff decisions, strategic partnerships and more. Learn more about each of these:

Strategic planning

The IT Strategic Plan will provide a three to five-year view of how Information Technology will evolve to meet CU's changing needs. Once complete, the strategic plan will provide a blueprint for how CU addresses emerging needs in a thoughtful manner within the limitations of budget, resources and other considerations.

The strategic plan aims to serve as a communication vehicle, providing stakeholders with a view of how technology changes are likely to unfold. The plan will be released in September 2018.

Annual planning

Each fiscal year, an Annual Plan is developed to provide a detailed view of resource and fund allocation in support of multiple IT initiatives.

In support of this plan, a quarterly summary of the multi-campus IT initiative pipeline is produced. This summary includes a high-level status report on active initiatives during the previous quarter and those that have been proposed, completed, canceled or deferred to-date within a given fiscal year. This summary also provides budget and personnel trends within University Information Systems, the primary provider of multi-campus IT services.

Where can you learn more?

Find out more about IT Governance, project criteria, strategic and annual planning, members and more at on the [CU IT Governance website](#) [4].

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