

February 4, 2011

Committee on IT Infrastructure (CITI)
Deans' Council
Information Technology Planning Board (ITPB)

Dear Colleagues:

As you know, the Technology Infrastructure Fee (TIF) Review Committee chaired by Professor Kathy Komar recently concluded an evaluation of TIF, which is now in its fourth year. I have reviewed the Committee's recommendations with you and have received comments from a number of interested faculty, staff and administrators. Based on this feedback, I have accepted the recommendations of the TIF Review Committee, with some modifications, and my responses to the report follow:

- 1) The Committee concluded that the FTE model still seems the most appropriate and practical, and most, although not all the deans agreed. Based on the Committee's analysis and the feedback I received, we will maintain the FTE model going forward.
- 2) The Committee recommended that students enrolled in self-supporting programs should pay into the TIF. In response, I have asked Vice Chancellor Steve Olsen to further analyze this recommendation for compliance with university policy and to determine if program fees already cover TIF-eligible expenses.
- 3) The Committee recommended that TIF should be used to support the medical enterprise email system and the cost of connecting off-campus medical center/clinical operations. This recommendation received widespread support, and I have asked Administrative Vice Chancellor Morabito and his staff to implement it effective July 1, 2011.
- 4) The Committee recommended that TIER (Technology Infrastructure for Instruction and Research) funds should disband as a subset fund and become part of the regular TIF used for common good infrastructure services that are operational. Once new common good services have moved into production, TIF should be the funding source for the cost of operations and maintenance. This recommendation received widespread support, and I have accepted it, recognizing that this creates some new challenges. Funding from TIF will continue to be used for some IT planning until there is an alternative.
- 5) The Committee recommended that UCLA should create a substantial fund for technology planning across the whole campus. This recommendation had strong agreement. I have asked Vice Provost Jim Davis to develop a proposal for such a fund to be submitted for review by CITI, Deans' Council, and ITPB.

- 6) The Committee noted that PIs would benefit from more help in getting TIF direct costs accepted in research grant proposals. I have forwarded this recommendation to Vice Chancellor James Economou and asked him to consider how to best assist faculty in this regard.

- 7) The Committee recommended that any future changes being considered for TIF should come to the Information Technology Planning Board for review, comment, and approval. I agree with this recommendation, but note that consultation with the ITPB is necessary but insufficient. Also needed is consultation with the deans and, where appropriate, POSSSE. A number of deans expressed a need to be more involved in decision-making about the allocation of IT funds and technology planning. Future consultation about IT planning and investments must extend to the deans, and I will do all I can to facilitate this process.

I want to thank the TIF Review Committee for its excellent report and to all of you for the careful attention you devote to IT planning and stewardship of our IT resources.

Sincerely,



Scott L. Waugh
Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

cc: Chancellor Gene D. Block