January 29, 2021

To: Shane White, Chair
   Academic Senate

From: Susan Cochran, Chair
   Committee on Data, Information Technology, and Privacy


At its meeting on January 28, 2021, the Committee on Data, Information Technology, and Privacy (CDITP) reviewed and discussed the Innovative Learning Technology Initiative (ILTI) Review and offered the following for consideration:

Committee members were heartened by the report’s efforts to identify the most appropriate homes for aspects of ILTI’s portfolio. Members were pleased at the plan to move much of the IT management into the ITS group at UCOP where existing expertise is better equipped to meet the IT need of enrollment management. Contract negotiations is likely another task that could be housed in the unit at UCOP that conducts software contractual arrangements for the UC. While ILTI might coordinate the list of desired software, negotiations would likely benefit from leveraging the University’s depth of resources in contract negotiation.

Members also opined that faculty across the UC are now much more familiar and experienced with the intricacies of online education in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In recognition of this rapid increase in expertise and the emerging expertise on the campuses in constructing online courses, committee members supported the initiative to transfer as much funding and decision-making to the campuses, particularly around course construction, as possible.

Lastly, members noted that it was essential to identify what aspects of ILTI’s role would be coordination versus support for the campuses. Some aspects of UC-wide online presence can benefit from a uniformity of approach. Members noted that key to the success of the program would be the ability of the UC to leverage cutting-edge approaches to online education. Identifying what structure (central, federated, or any other alternative) will achieve that is key.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the CDITP Analysts, Estrella Arciba/Taylor Lane Daymude, at earciba@senate.ucla.edu/tlanedaymude@senate.ucla.edu.