

## **Academic Computing Committee 2015-2016 Annual Report**

### Committee Actions

The Academic Computing Committee addressed a number of computing issues facing the university community. The committee sought feedback from academic units across campus, and then used this feedback to guide its discussions. The committee reviewed the current technology procurement process, the UTS strategic plan and goals, and the state of the network. The committee also addressed the following technical needs of faculty.

- Resources on phishing education available for committee members to share with their academic units were identified.
- The committee drafted a letter providing faculty with guidance regarding the storage of personally identifiable information (PII) and intellectual property (IP) data. Committee members shared this letter with their respective academic units.
- The drafted letter was shared with CETL, which will incorporate the information into the faculty handbook. Also, the committee discussed working with CETL to host an event in the fall to communicate the information to faculty.

### Progress Made

The committee discussed progress made over the academic year in providing appropriate computing infrastructure. SPSS is now available to faculty and students, and the portal managing the software distribution can be used for other software in the future as well. Also, the university is now a full member of Internet2. This membership will allow the university to benefit from services and resources designed to meet the specific needs and legal requirements of academic institutions.

### Recommendations

Throughout the academic year, the committee identified and discussed continuing computing needs for the campus community. The following recommendations are the result of these discussions.

- A campus-wide backup solution should be pursued. This would provide faculty with the ability to backup critical data and ensure that the backup satisfies data security best practices for intellectual property and personally identifiable information.
- HIPAA compliant data storage on campus should be pursued.
- Adequate UTS staffing is necessary to address projects identified as priorities for the campus community. Current staffing levels result in delays in the development and implementation of important projects, and additional UTS staff for software review are needed.
- The university should continue to pursue the software identified in the 2014-2015 Academic Computing Committee Annual Report. The committee this year continued discussion regarding need for qualitative analysis software on campus. The potential for long-term cost savings through licensing for Adobe Creative Cloud was also discussed.

### Committee Role

Finally, committee members noted the importance of this committee to the university community. University technology decisions have direct bearing on the ability of faculty to carry out the instructional, scholarly, and community engagement mission of the university. Now that UTS will report to the COO rather than Academic Affairs, the Academic Computing Committee serves an especially vital role providing faculty input into university technology decisions.