MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Lynn Williams, Chair of the Academic Senate

FROM: Dr. John V.H. Constable, Chair of the University Budget Committee

Subject: Information Technology Strategic Plan

The University Budget Committee (UBC) reviewed the Strategic Plan presented by Information Technology (Updated document dated November 19, 2012) at its December 2012 meeting. The plan is organized around six primary strategies and seeks to establish the trajectory for Information Technology goals and investments over the next four years.

In reviewing the document, the Committee noted concern with two key issues as noted below.

(i) There appears to be considerable financial investment in implementing the IT strategic plan including hardware and software purchases coupled with personnel costs (new positions, position re-assignments, and new duties on existing personnel). The Committee recognizes that a financial investment is required to meet IT goals but little information is provided about how the University might meet this financial obligation.

(ii) As a possible result of limited consultation with all parties involved with IT decisions and implications there appears to be duplicate effort with ongoing CSU System IT goals (e.g., page 16 mentions the introduction of an institutional repository for digital content, conceptually the idea is sound, but it duplicates repository efforts at the Chancellor's Office that encompass all CSU campuses) and inaccurate terminology suggesting a lack of awareness regarding IT system details (e.g., page 16 mentions ScholarWorks and DSPACE as separate entities when they represent a single integrated system – ScholarWorks is a CSU project that operates on DSPACE software).

The UBC recommends that the Senate Executive Committee evaluate the IT Strategic Plan with care and attention towards its ability to effectively meet the current and future needs of the University without duplication of services or undue financial commitments.

Cc: Dr. Lynn Williams, Chair of the Academic Senate