

Information Resources Implementation Plan 1990 - 1995

INTRODUCTION

The *University Directions* document states as its ninth goal the intent to "develop and use expanded information resources." The Organization Implementation Plan calls for the establishment of a chief information officer to coordinate all information-related technologies on campus. Clearly, East Carolina University is committed to designing, enhancing, and integrating various information services to meet targeted institutional and user needs in support of all the goals in *University Directions*.

These needs, particularly those related to computing, have been undergoing intensive examination in recent years. Three separate and distinct study reports related to academic computing, administrative computing as well as the computing needs of the School of Medicine were combined into one statement and submitted to the Chancellor in June, 1988. These computing issues must now be viewed, assessed, and addressed against the backdrop of the entire spectrum of information resources. Such a comprehensive approach will result in the more effective and efficient use of the University's resources.

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

A significant gap exists at East Carolina University between current resources and practices and those needed and indeed required by a university which is positioning itself for the future. From an overall perspective, there is an absence of a university-wide strategy for information-related funding and decision-making. More specifically, there is a lack of integration of voice, data, print, and video functions. Decision patterns are unclear; student and faculty needs for expanded access to computing resources are largely unmet; and user-related incentives for change are not apparent.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. *Provide students with the basic concepts and skills necessary to access and manage information through the use of information technology*

- a. Prepare students to be functioning members of the information society by making every attempt to instruct all students in the use of computer hardware and software, including operating systems and word processing applications as well as discipline-specific applications software.
- b. Provide and communicate the availability of instructional programs to assist students in the mastery of information technology

- c. Provide computer workstations for students at a ratio of 1 to 10

- d. Provide network access to permit faculty and student communication both on and off campus

2. *Provide faculty with the information technology and related support services necessary to meet the teaching and research expectations of the University*

- a. Provide computer workstations that are readily accessible to all faculty members

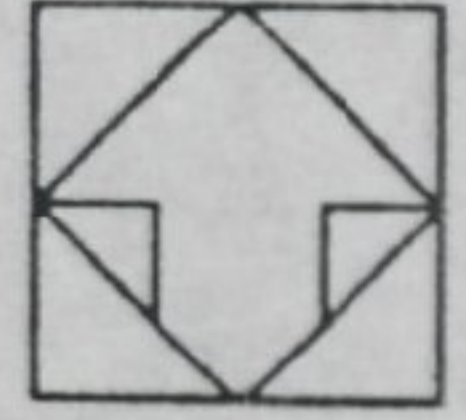
- b. Facilitate the development and enhancement of faculty skills in the use of information technology

- c. Encourage and reward the development of instructional software and the innovative application of information technology

- d. Provide and support applications software which has utility for research

- e. Provide statistical computing support to aid academic faculty research

- f. Develop a detailed academic computing plan to guide the deployment of resources by discipline



Strategies for Distinction

3. Enhance administrative computing to better manage University resources

- a. Provide a unified operating system environment for administrative computing, migrating all respective applications as rapidly as possible
- b. Develop a long-term strategy with consistent short-term plans for administrative computing that recognizes:

- ◆The informational requirements for effective management of all campus resources, including on-line access to current management information in support of internal administrative analyses and decision making
- ◆The need for operational efficiency
- ◆User friendliness of application software
- ◆Technological advances
- ◆The overall cost of system development, implementation, and maintenance

4. Develop additional funding to support information resources including student fees, direct user charges, cost recoveries from non- te entities, fund raising, vendor grants, new state appropriations, and grants and contracts

5. Build a basic information processing and communication infrastructure for faculty, staff, and students to support adequately the University mission

- a. Establish a basic service level, where applicable, which includes access to the following:

- ◆Workstation
- ◆Private Voice Line
- ◆Fax
- ◆Teleconferencing Capabilities
- ◆Campus Network Connection
- ◆Teleteaching Capabilities
- ◆Office Automation

- b. Provide for future enhancements and additions that are compatible with the basic service level

- c. Establish guidelines and policies that require this information processing infrastructure to be a part of the planning process for all new facilities on campus

6. Incorporate all forms of information technology into a common organizational matrix at the senior officer level for purposes of promoting and improving information resources effectively and efficiently

- a. Create a structure which brings together resources, specific information-related services, and decision groups
- b. Maximize the availability and accessibility of resources and services for the advancement of all strategic goals and objectives for information resources
- c. Provide the equipment maintenance, technical guidance, and training needed for the effective use of information resources
- d. Support faculty initiatives in information resources for instruction, research, and service
- e. Develop and implement policies and guidelines that encourage user self-sufficiency

7. Provide appropriate presentation media technology and support necessary to promote effective teaching research, and service

- a. Establish a comprehensive center for the development and support of instructional media resources
- b. Support faculty initiatives in the development of multimedia-based teaching and research materials by making available services for the digitization, cataloguing, and combining of images and sound
- c. Provide adequate classroom facilities which are equipped for multimedia instruction
- d. Develop policies, procedures, production facilities, and trained personnel to support internal and external communications which include editorial and publication services, printing, graphic design, photography, television, and duplication

8. Strengthen library resources and use state-of-the-art information technology to facilitate the acquisition and creation of knowledge