

Society for College and University Planning Project Proposal
SCUP Fellow Research Project Submission
2015-2016 SCUP Fellow Year

Title:

Information Technology: Building Important Bridges between Academic and Service Units

Submitted by:

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My proposed SCUP White Paper investigates the growing trend and need for increased communication and coordination between academic units and service units that help teaching and learning across campus. I am prepared to write a White Paper, an op-ed, and participate in a conference panel about this research. The project will examine the collaboration between the Information Technology on campus between Technology Integrated Learning (TIL), which is an academic service unit and the important collaboration with University Systems, the Learning and Teaching Center, Libraries, and Student Services. I am the founding (Acting) Director Technology Integrated Learning and during this nascent year we have migrated from one instance of Moodle, piloted and onboarded an on-campus WordPress instance, and supported more educational technology across campus. TIL offers a perfect case study for the important relationship between academic service units and other service units related to information technology who support teaching and learning.

Information Technology at the University of Victoria (UVIC) includes combining efforts between multiple departments, while ensuring the best learning and teaching environment for students, faculty, and staff. I am active as an emerging leader at UVIC and in the greater community thanks to my social media presence and numerous community presentations, and media appearances as an expert in my field. However, I am new to administration and this opportunity would provide me the opportunity to delve deeper into my unit's goals and also learn from other SCUP fellows and mentors. My methodology is to research other university efforts in Canada and the US, and I will interview other directors or administrators about best practices. Over the past two years, UVIC has been rebuilding and investing in foundational technologies to support teaching and learning. And, as the Chair of the Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching, I have had an opportunity to be involved in these efforts. It has been crucial to build bridges with other leaders across campus. We are now focusing on the next set of campus priorities, as well as investing in innovative and emerging technologies. Information Technology is the key in increasing role in the way that faculty and students collaborate with each other and in which scholarship is developed, conducted, and distributed. The only way for UVIC to move forward is by strengthening relationships between various service units and TIL is the conduit to execute this successfully.

Information technology is playing an increasing role in the way that faculty and students communicate with each other and the world, and in which scholarship is developed, conducted and distributed. Information technology is also changing our classrooms and campus community. UVIC has centralized educational technology support services via the establishment of TIL, and has encouraged silo-busting so that service units can work more effectively to distribute and support information technology across campus.

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This SCUP fellowship will allow me to move beyond a one-year strategy to build a plan that supports information technology across campus, while still providing excellent support to faculty, staff, and students. The case study results will be useful to other administrators.
