



## Ad Hoc Faculty Senate IT Committee Meeting

21 May 2025

1:00 PM, 2025 Digital Media Center

### Approved Minutes of the Meeting

#### **Attendance:**

Present: Param Singh (Chair), Gerry Knapp (Secretary), Scott Baldrige, Kenneth Lopata, Larry Smolinsky, Sumit Jain (Ex-officio), and guests Susan Crochet (ITS) and Beth Shoenberger (ITS). Absent: Fabio Del Piero, Juana Moreno, Samuel Robison, Thomas Douthat (special advisor: non-voting), Craig Woolley (Ex-officio).

A regular meeting of the ad hoc FS IT committee convened at 1:00 pm on May 21, 2025, in room 2025 of the Digital Media Center (Center for Computation and Technology) at the LSU campus, with the Chair and Secretary being present.

The minutes of the last meeting (1/28/25) were adopted.

The committee began discussion of PS-128 Identity and Access Management and its standards. The committee covered PS-128 Identity and Access Management and PS-128-ST-1 Identity Management. No changes were proposed in these.

Lopata motioned to postpone the discussion of PS-128 to the next meeting and take IT centralization as the next item of business, passed unanimously.

Susan Crochet from ITS provided information on the IT centralization initiative underway. The initiative was recently announced by President Tate as part of an initiative to centralize multiple functions on campus; IT was selected to go first. The initiative is expected to improve efficiency and service quality, and enhance cybersecurity. CIO Woolley has indicated it is a priority that centralization cause as little disruption as possible and that service quality should be equal or better than current quality levels.

During discussion, it was noted by committee members that this initiative is creating considerable fear among TSP staff, administrators, and faculty. Crochet indicated there is no intention to eliminate positions, although responsibilities may be adjusted and cross-training is planned to enhance staffing flexibility and service resiliency. It is expected that some TSP positions will be moved, with their budget lines, out of individual departments and colleges to ITS. However, specialized TSP may stay with departments, and split appointments are possible, after a usage and needs study is conducted.

At this time, centralization is only concerned with staffing; department/college computer labs, servers, and other computational hardware are not covered in the current effort.

Crochet indicated the process would occur in three phases. Phase I would be determining who TSP are and their basic duties and assignments via a survey. Phase II would be a more detailed usage and needs survey. Phase III would be determining which positions to centralize, and how positions would be organized within ITS to meet required service levels. Phase I is under way, with CIO Woolley meeting with college Deans and Chairs. The committee discussed with the ITS representatives ideas on how to ensure comprehensive high quality data collection would occur in Phases I and II.

Crochet indicated the timeline is over the next year. Moving staff lines must occur on fiscal year borders. Some positions may be centralized this July where MOU are already in place with colleges and other units. Most moves will occur as of July 1, 2026.

Next meeting of the committee is planned for Monday June 30<sup>th</sup>, at 9am. Meeting adjourned on motion from Lopata at 2:58pm, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gerry Knapp, Secretary