



Consolidation Committee  
Final Report



**Committee Details**

Date: November 29, 2016

Committee Name: OWG 60 Back-End Systems

Committee Co-Chairs: Del Kimbrough, Jordan Beard, Scott Dunn and Gay Tate

Functional Area: Technology Services

Functional Area Coordinator: Del Kimbrough

**Major Tasks for Committee Tracker from Final Planning Document and Recommendations**

**Task: Telecommunications/Phone Systems**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** Recommends retaining existing VOIP systems for east and west campuses with no change at this time. Continue to research VOIP cost for merging both campuses VOIP systems into one system which will empower us to select the most cost efficient vendor for our new ASU. Maintain a campus directory to include east and west campuses on the new university website providing easy access for employees. Educate both campuses regarding directory lookup.

**Task: Operating Systems**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** All server operating systems remain compliant with all policies and meet the requirements as described in the Enterprise Wide Technical Architecture documentation. Server Operating systems will be reviewed and updated at both sites in accordance to the technology needs at the new university and in accordance with the Information Security Office best practices and configuration documentation. Through site to site connectivity and the extension of domain name spaces improved backups, disaster recovery, and service availability will be realized.

**Task: Wi-Fi Network**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** Replicate current SSID services (unique ID naming wireless networks) on both campuses, in case some of the assumptions or back end requirements have not been met at the time of roll out. Unify services through similar hardware implementations and topologies. Provide a roadmap for the system to grow in a way that can accommodate the increasing demand for bandwidth and services.

**Task: Data Centers – Fabric (Physical and Virtual), Inventory Management, Monitoring**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** Recommends consolidating the Enterprise Primary and Secondary Data centers at both campuses to provide seamless, highly available, and highly reliable services to the faculty, staff, students, graduates, alumni, and guests in accordance with the Enterprise Wide Technical Architecture documentation.



Consolidation Committee  
Final Report



<p><b>Task: Network Schema:</b>  <b>Recommendation and/or Action Taken:</b> Recommends that the new University implement a strategy that will eliminate duplication of service and consolidate all of the services into a single network schema. Consolidate the Network Schema and logical network design between both campus sites into a single document addressing IP address space overlap. Design a change management process to manage this document.</p>
<p><b>Task: Sever/Clusters/VDI</b>  <b>Recommendation and/or Action Taken:</b> All servers and clusters remain compliant with all policies and meet the requirements as described in the Enterprise Wide Technical Architecture documentation. All proposed servers and clusters will be reviewed and approved by the IT technology review process and by the designated data center operations POC prior to procurement. All server and cluster placement with in any enterprise data center will be at the discretion of the data center operations POC. Servers and clusters will adhere to all guidelines outlined with in the current device standards, life cycle replenishment, and those outlined in the EWTA.</p>
<p><b>Task: Security/Network/Police Computing/Life Safety Systems:</b>  <b>Recommendation and/or Action Taken:</b> OWG 61 has submitted recommendations that have been approved by the CIC concerning police computing and life safety systems with the support of OWG-60.</p>
<p><b>Task: Wireline [LAN, WAN, Network Services]:</b>  <b>Recommendation and/or Action Taken:</b> This task is included in our WiFi Network recommendation. Replicate current SSID services (unique ID naming wireless networks) on both campuses, in case some of the assumptions or back end requirements have not been met at the time of roll out. Unify services through similar hardware implementations and topologies. Provide a roadmap for the system to grow in a way that can accommodate the increasing demand for bandwidth and services.</p>
<p><b>Task: Information Security Asset and Assurance:</b>  <b>Recommendation and/or Action Taken:</b> The consolidated institution should develop an enterprise inventory tracking process, utilizing a central asset management system. Through this asset tracking system, the consolidated institution will have reporting available regarding asset inventory, surplus, and mission-critical assets. Likewise, it will facilitate the annual process to review and inventory the consolidated institution’s assets. The consolidated institution will develop a reporting which alerts IT Services in the event that confidential information (SSN, Banking Information) is uploaded to the public web space. The consolidated institution will develop Disaster Recovery and Continuity of Operations Planning documents for critical systems, helping to ensure the availability of services in the event of disaster or significant service disruption. The consolidated institution develop an Incident Response Policy and Processes, in alignment with USG requirements. Information</p>



Consolidation Committee  
Final Report



Technology policies should be developed for the new institution which align with USG requirements regarding technology and clearly communicate the acceptable use of technology resources for the consolidated institution. In partnership with Procurement, develop an IT procurement process which serves as a clear entry-point for IT purchase at the consolidated institution. Provide Education, Training and Awareness to students, faculty and staff of the new university which align with USG security training requirements. IT Services collaborate with Human Resources to develop policy and procedures which validate logical and physical access during hiring, role changes, and separation. Implement a system scanning and remediation process which will increase security of IT systems campus-wide.

**Task: Databases/ Data Stores**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** All application databases that are duplicated between east and west be consolidated. Any MS SQL application database that is not a duplication will be consolidated under one database server if application requirements permit. All databases used by the new university will meet standards and policy set by the university. The current data stores for both campuses will be used for the new university. Support and life cycle will need to be checked for the hardware supplying storage for the data stores to ensure the best reliability. Any hardware that is end of life will need to be replaced.

**Task: A/V – including replenishment**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** A/V (Audio/Visual) systems in labs and classrooms on both the East and West Campus, along with the Cordele Center, adhere to a standard experience. The standard will include the user interface present in the room as well as the technology selected when designing future implementations.

**Task: Website/CMS/Drupal – Enterprise Sites:**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** This task was moved to OWG-45.

**Task: Domain Integration – AD, DNS, LDAP, and Network Schema:**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** Recommends that the new university consolidate domains into one. This implementation strategy will eliminate duplication of service and consolidate all of the services into a single managed domain.

**Task: Replenishment – Budget and Life Cycle Replacement:**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** This task was moved to OWG-62.

**Task: Dedicated Site to Site Link:**

**Recommendation and/or Action Taken:** Recommends to provide a dedicated network connection between the east & west campuses. The link will enable data communication and collaboration. PeachNet provides data connectivity to both sites and can provide the connection. There will be initial startup costs and a recurring monthly fee to provide a bandwidth connection of 2x 10gb/s.



**Consolidation Committee  
Final Report**



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**Other/Final Comments (if any):**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Recommends the use of Cisco-Meraki on east and west campuses.</b></li></ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Recommends that Albany/Darton adhere to an A+B=C (where A=east campus and B=west campus and C=New Environment) approach when consolidating the indoor digital sign systems. Rise Vision will be used for the new environment.</b></li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Recommends that the new institution adopt the A+B=C model where the A=east campus domain and B=west campus domain.</b></li></ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Recommends consolidating the technology hardware, software, administration, maintenance, and change management to provide a centralized point of control for the Enterprise firewalls.</b></li></ul>  |