Charge #2:

*We have a campus cyber-infrastructure plan as required by the NSF. Investigate whether we could modify it to take into account big data mining, infrastructure experimentation, protocol design, etc. Many questions will have to be addressed: What are the benefits of utilizing campus data? What are the risks? Privacy concerns? How engaged is the CIO’s office?*

**NSF Requirements**

“All proposal to [NSF’s Campus Cyberinfrastructure - Infrastructure, Innovation and Engineering Program] (CC*IIE) must include a campus cyber-infrastructure plan within which the proposed network infrastructure improvements are conceived, designed, and implemented in the context of a coherent campus-wide strategy and approach to Cyberinfrastructure (CI) that is integrated horizontally intra-campus and vertically with regional and national CI investments and best practices.”

CC*IIE program solicitation can be found at:


“This Campus CI plan must be included as a supplementary document and is limited to no more than 5 pages.”

Examples of CI plans provided by existing awardees can be found at:

[http://fasterdata.es.net/campusCIplanning/](http://fasterdata.es.net/campusCIplanning/)

**Review of current campus cyberinfrastructure plan:**

- LRPE Committee has determined that the current Campus CI plan meets the NSF requirements.

- Only concern is the following sentence from the NSF CC*IIE solicitation:

  - “Further, proposals are expected to address within the Campus CI plan the sustainability of the proposed work in terms of ongoing operational and engineering costs.”

This suggests that proposers should have the ability to tweak the plan to ensure that it is well integrated with their proposed work.
LRPE Committee Recommendations:

1. Proposers responding to NSF solicitations requiring a CI plan should be allowed to add a proposal-specific paragraph at the end of the official CI plan.
   - Any modifications/additions to the official CI plan should be approved by the Vice President of Research as part of the proposal routing process.
     - Specifically this means that the proposal-routing form will have a check box indicating if a modified CI plan is being submitted (the proposal-specific paragraph).
   - Recommendations for changes to the official CI plan (not including the proposal-specific paragraph) should be channeled to the Office of the CIO through the appropriate Campus IT group. For faculty, the most appropriate group will be Research Computing.

2. RIT should create an official data usage policy that addresses internal data usage as well as data usage when responding to grant proposals.

Policy should be developed with input from:

- Office of the Chief Information Officer
- Campus IT Groups (current list of groups is maintained by the CIO)
- Information Security Office
- Institutional Review Board
- Human Resources
- Academic Senate
- Office of Institutional Research and Policy Studies
- Office of the Vice President for Research

Example data usage policies/guidelines from other institutions are below:

- Cornell University: [http://www.it.cornell.edu/policies/infoprivacy/regdata/](http://www.it.cornell.edu/policies/infoprivacy/regdata/)
- Indiana University:
  - [http://protect.iu.edu/acceptableuseagreement](http://protect.iu.edu/acceptableuseagreement)
- University of Michigan: [http://www.mais.umich.edu/access/download/daguide.pdf](http://www.mais.umich.edu/access/download/daguide.pdf)
- University of California: [http://vcue.berkeley.edu/accreditation/pr_essays_4a.html](http://vcue.berkeley.edu/accreditation/pr_essays_4a.html)
- University of Michigan (Flint): [http://www.umflint.edu/its/policies](http://www.umflint.edu/its/policies)
Charge #4:

a. Explore mechanisms for the faculty, staff, and students to evaluate the Ombuds office.

b. Explore whether the Ombud’s office is adequately staffed, especially since Lee Twyman noted that we no longer have a mediator on campus. Should additional resources be considered, given the increased demands and importance of this position?

#4a Evaluation Mechanism

- Currently, Ombuds Office is very inclusive, serving any RIT campus group with conflicts, disputes, concerns, complaints, and questions unable to be resolved.
- Office functions full-time with Ombudsperson, Lee Twyman and Dawn Sullivan, Senior Staff Specialist
- Office operates under four tenets:
  - confidential
  - impartial
  - independent
  - informal
- HR becomes involved if formal issues develop
- Cases: 40% student, 30% staff, 30% faculty and parents
- Office caseload tripled in the first four years, but has plateaued in the last two (case = 2 or more contacts)
- Lee Twyman provides documentation, resources, and caseload numbers to the community through an annual report; would prefer to do more evaluation and recognizes the need to do so

#4a Subcommittee’s Recommendation - Conduct an online evaluation survey

- The most efficient and effective way for faculty, staff, and students to evaluate the Ombuds Office is through the mechanism of an online evaluation survey
- Lee Twyman will generate a survey and our subcommittee will request to review a draft before implementation
- The survey could ask about the RIT community’s awareness of the Ombuds Office and their services
- The survey could direct those who have had experience using the Ombuds Office to indicate level of satisfaction, amount of wait time to have cases begun, the degree and quality of follow-through, and how often cases return to the office due to a lack of follow-through (if any)
- A committee (possibly members of our subcommittee) could assess the evaluation survey results
#4b Additional Resources be Considered?

- Currently, the Ombuds Office is successfully fulfilling its mission and no one requesting service is being turned away
- Lee Twyman says there is no need for outside mediators, though additional staff would enable the office to do more thorough caseload follow-up, conduct more outreach, group interventions, and mediations
- The office is hesitant to increase promotional efforts as they are running at full capacity
- Lee Twyman would like to have at least 1 or 1.5 additional full-time headcount so the Ombuds Office can have a proactive role, as opposed to a reactive role

#4b Subcommittee’s Recommendation - No additional resources without new evidence

- Given that the Ombuds Office is fulfilling its mission with its current staff, the LRPEC subcommittee does not recommend additional resources at this time
- However, if the survey reveals the Ombuds Office may not be fulfilling its mission as successfully as it appears, or that there may be an unmet demand, or if the current demand increases, the LRPEC subcommittee will reevaluate its recommendation
Charge #7:

The previous Campus Environment Committee determined that the best practice for improving coordination and communication among sustainability-oriented groups and activities on campus, particularly those related to academics where we currently fall short, is to establish a rotating Faculty Fellow in Sustainability. To that end, define the job description and logistical considerations for this position.

Recommendation: Establish a Faculty Associate for Sustainability

Purpose:

The role of the Faculty Associate for Sustainability would be to support the integration of sustainability concepts and practices into teaching and scholarship throughout all colleges in the University.

The Associate would be expected to work across the academic disciplines to increase the awareness of sustainability among the faculty, foster the inclusion of sustainability into the curriculum and encourage original research and scholarly activity in fields related to sustainability.

Responsibilities include:

- Establish a faculty learning community for Sustainability that will advise, assist, and support the integration of interdisciplinary approaches to sustainability throughout the RIT curriculum.
- Enhance the understanding of sustainability concepts among faculty and students, particularly those not trained in environmental or sustainability related fields.
- Explore teaching and course design strategies that will engage students in sustainability from a multidisciplinary approach.
- Promote internal and external communications and marketing efforts regarding courses, academic programs and other curricular efforts related to sustainability.
- Provide opportunities for faculty throughout the university to build new research collaborations and directions around sustainability.

The position would come with a one course reduction, per semester, for which the department would be compensated (pending approval from the Provost’s Office).

The Faculty Associate for Sustainability will work on projects spanning a two-year period. This position would work closely with the Senior Sustainability Advisor to the President and report to the Provost’s Office. At the end of each two year appointment, the Sustainability Learning Community will evaluate the need to continue the Faculty Associate for Sustainability position and will make its recommendation to the Provost.

Qualifications:

- Tenured faculty or full-time lecturer from any discipline.
- The ability to work with, inspire, and support other faculty, staff, and students to foster sustainability at RIT.