



Information Technology Policy and Procedures

Policy: Information Technology Infrastructure, Architecture and Ongoing Operations

Policy Title: Information Technology Infrastructure, Architecture and Ongoing Operations	Approval Date: 9/4/2008
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Oversight Executive: VP for Information Technology & CIO	Review Date:

1. Purpose

It is critically important that Radford University's information technology (IT) infrastructure, architecture and ongoing operations support the mission of the institution. To help ensure this need is met, decisions affecting these areas must reflect standards, guidelines and practices found to be effective in the higher education environment. This policy establishes the nationally recognized codes of practice with which the University aligns its IT infrastructure, architecture and ongoing operations.

2. Policy

The University will maintain a list of specific standards and guidelines that should influence decisions affecting key components of its IT infrastructure, architecture and operations. These standards and guidelines will align with industry best practices, appropriately tailored for the specific circumstances of the University, as described by EDUCAUSE, Internet2, and others within higher education, as well as those from selected technology industries. It is not the intent of this guidance to in any way inhibit research or other institutional endeavors that by their nature may require the use of cutting-edge technology not yet appropriate for normal use. The guidance is descriptive rather than prescriptive to achieve flexibility where needed. The ultimate goal is to create logical relationships between information technology resources and the mission of the university and its units.

This policy applies to all university information technology, whether owned and operated by the university, or used for university business through contractual arrangements.

3. Procedures

An overview of the framework for infrastructure, architecture and ongoing operations, along with the standards and guidelines will be posted at the Radford University website. When decisions are made regarding IT infrastructure, architecture and ongoing operations, the decision maker should consult this information for guidance.

4. Definitions

5. Related Information

The following is a sampling of higher education sources for IT best practices and evolving trends:

The [*Campus Cyberinfrastructure Working Group*](#) of [*Net@EDU*](#) helps educational institutions develop institutional strategies and plan their resource deployment in this emerging and evolving technological landscape and helps their users harness and optimize the power and capabilities of new integrated IT tools and systems for educational and research applications in higher education.

[EDUCAUSE](http://educause.edu) is a nonprofit association whose mission is to advance higher education by promoting the intelligent use of information technology. <http://educause.edu>

[Internet2](#) develops and deploys advanced network applications and technologies for research and higher education, accelerating the creation of tomorrow's Internet.

The [National LambdaRail](#) develops and deploys a fiber optic network infrastructure for the purpose of advancing research, clinical, and educational goals.

The [Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council](#) is a non-profit association of colleges and universities; professional and commercial organizations; data, software and service providers; and state and federal government agencies.

6. Policy Background

The Commonwealth of Virginia Restructured Higher Education Financial and Administrative Operations Act of 2005 and Chapter 824, Virginia 2008 Acts of Assembly grant institutions additional authority over financial and administrative operations, on condition that certain commitments to the Commonwealth are met. Radford University's Management Agreement with the Commonwealth provides full delegated responsibility for management of the institution's information technology infrastructure, architecture and ongoing operations. This delegation includes the authority to conduct these activities in accordance with industry best practices appropriately tailored for the specific circumstances of the University, in lieu of following Commonwealth-determined specifications. This policy documents the industry best practices with which the University will align its infrastructure, architecture and ongoing operations.

7. Approvals and Revisions

Approved By: Radford University Board of Visitors

Date: September 4, 2008