FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

OVERARCHING STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGY GOALS

Progress To Date – June, 2009
Goal 5  Build A State-of-the-Art Information Technology Environment

• By 2008 FAU IT infrastructure and support services will meet the basic requirements of the faculty, students, staff and administration.

• IT funding, equipment and staff will enable FAU to respond to the growth demand, and to offer faster, more reliable, and scalable technological services for use in teaching, research, service and administrative arenas.
Funding Information

Original Request:
• $4,250,000 nonrecurring / $14,504,000 recurring

Funds Received to Date:
• $3,060,500. Internal reallocations of FAU funds to meet the objectives of this goal, since 2006.
• $2,600,000 in new funds allocated for Goal 5 from Clearwire Lease during the 2008-09 fiscal year.
Objective 1: The University will provide adequate & stable funding to Colleges and non-academic units to maintain their IT infrastructure necessary for instruction, research and/or support and administrative activities.

Progress:

- Replaced 25 outdated switches in academic buildings with new state of the art switches to allow better connectivity to internal and external applications to assist in the teaching/learning/research/support activities of the university.

Funds Received to Date: $1,350,000

Impact:

- Technology is the key to FAU’s future.
- This is the beginning of a systematic infrastructure replacement project that will assist FAU to support all of its critical functions.
Objective 2: Stable IRM operating budget, keeping pace with service expansion by the academic and non-academic units and allowing systematic replacement of outdated equipment located outside of the Computer Center facility.

Progress:
As a result of the Clearwire lease, the Provost has earmarked approximately $12,000,000 for IRM over the next 5 years.

Funds Received to Date: $2,600,000

Impact:
FAU will be able to move to the newest generation of technology in a systematic nature.
Objective 3: IRM and college-based IT staff will be adequate to support teaching, research and administrative mission of FAU.

Progress:
• Over the past two years no additions to the IRM staff, college based staffs have also remained constant. IRM has lost several staff members that have not been replaced due to university-wide budget reductions.

Funds Received to Date: $234,000

Impact:
• As FAU relies more on electronic world for teaching, research and administrative service, without adequate IT staffing, FAU will not move forward, as a matter of fact, it will move backwards.
Objective 4: Improve IT infrastructure and support for research and collaborative projects.

Progress:
• Sponsored Research, Scripps, Max Planck and Torre Pines computing environments supported and enhanced.
• FLR/NLR and Internet2 20 gigabit state/national backbone.
• FAU researchers have access to the fastest research and development network in the world.

Funds Received to Date: $1,296,000

Impact:
• IT groundwork has been laid to allow FAU to reach its research potential.
• Next steps
  • Proper equipment within each academic building to allow researchers to take advantage of the infrastructure.
  • Employ research-oriented IT staff so research faculty will not be handicapped in preparing and receiving high tech grants
Objective 5: Infrastructure, bandwidth, capacity, & streaming video to support expanding distance learning initiatives

Progress:

- No change in physical infrastructure
- FLR provides FAU more bandwidth than it will need for the next 5 years.
- Videobridge added to allow for connectivity and streaming video anywhere/anytime.

Funds Received to Date: $1,000,000 (Clearwire and E&G)

Impact:
- IRM is working with the colleges to build distance learning and videoconferencing environments that will match the faculty needs and enhance the teaching/learning process across campuses.
Objective 6: Increase number of next-generation smart classrooms, videoconferencing capabilities and open and instructional computer labs.

Progress:

- Boca Raton campus: 29 traditional classrooms converted to eclassrooms
- Northern campuses: 4 traditional classrooms converted to eclassrooms
- Davie campus: 11 traditional classrooms converted to eclassrooms
- 45 additional wireless access points to enhance wireless coverage
- Davie, Ft. Lauderdale, Jupiter and PSL have full wireless coverage
- All Boca Raton classrooms and student areas have complete wireless coverage.
- Additional funding required to complete the wireless coverage at the open areas of the Boca Raton Campus.
- IRM retrofitted 11 open and instructional labs equipment totaling 381 computers
  - Boca Raton – 6 labs
  - Broward – 3 labs
  - Northern Campuses – 2 labs

Funds Received to Date: $1,440,334 (Clearwire funded & E&G)

Impact:

- Up-to-date computer-based technology is available to faculty and students, which has a positive impact on the teaching/learning process.
Objective 7: Network infrastructure and storage technology will be maintained at an adequate level to meet expanding needs

Progress:
• Currently FAU campuses are all connected at 500 megabits.
• 30% increase in university storage capacity.
• Connection to the Florida LambdaRail now at 10gb speed.

Funds Received to Date: $998,000

Impact:
• Additional storage has been added to accommodate new student information system (Banner) needs.

• Larger disaster recovery storage cluster has been created at our Disaster Recovery site located in Tallahassee, FL.
Objective 8: IRM will work with college level faculty to develop students’ IT proficiency.

Progress to Date:
• College of Business has developed a prerequisite class that students enrolling in distance learning or Blackboard courses must take and pass.

Funds Received to Date: $0

Impact:
• Colleges are offering more online classes.
• Faculty are requiring their students to do more online testing and class assignments.
• FAU is providing the resources needed to meet college and faculty requirements.
• FAU is providing access to students, but it is not doing its part in assisting students to be proficient.