

EDUCAUSE Cyberinfrastructure Activities

Background

In the summer of 2006, the National Science Foundation awarded EDUCAUSE a grant to host a workshop to develop shared, higher education community strategies for addressing the critical issues of campus cyberinfrastructure (CI). Led by the Net@EDU Campus Cyberinfrastructure (CCI) Working Group, the workshop resulted in draft recommendations on where the higher education community should concentrate its efforts in this field. Participants identified five drivers of campus cyberinfrastructure that provide a launching point for crafting a long-term campus CI strategy:

- Campus communities and constituencies
- Computing and communications
- Information management
- Virtual communities
- Partnership strategies

Interwoven in this discussion is how the higher education community can improve coordination and existing grant processes with the NSF, other federal agencies, and academic-sponsored funding sources on CI initiatives.

Net@EDU CCI Working Group Focus

The CCI Working Group's mandate of **campus cyberinfrastructure** focuses on strategies, business plans and policies of campus CI for research, education, and competitive advantage. Part of the group's mission involves providing higher education IT leaders with the information needed to make informed decisions on how to build and manage their campus CI resources. Projects underway to help with this endeavor include:

- "Elevator Conversation Tools" for CIOs to explain the benefit of CI to university leaders
- White paper on business strategies for campus and data centers
- EDUCAUSE Summit on IT Governance (date TBA)
- Higher education community workshop "Federal Policy Issues of CI" (date TBA)

The other component is to help shape federal policies impacting CI. Working closely with the EDUCAUSE Policy Office, the CCI Working Group is seeking to facilitate discussions among the higher education community and federal agency stakeholders on how revised campus and agency strategies could provide incentives for more effective investments and operations for national and campus CI and improved coordination among all parties.

Resources

Net@EDU Campus Cyberinfrastructure (CCI) Working Group
<http://www.educause.edu/cci>

"Building the Campus Cyberinfrastructure Roadmap" (August 2006)
<http://www.educause.edu/cci>

"The Challenge of Campus Cyberinfrastructure" (October 2006)
James Bottom, Clemson University; Patrick Dreher, MIT; Bonnie Neas, North Dakota University System
<http://www.educause.edu/LibraryDetailPage/666?ID=EDU06063>

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