Glossary of Terms from the 2007 Core Data Survey

**Administration of IT Organization, IT Planning, Technology R&D**
For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Financial planning and management for IT
- Campus IT planning
- IT communications and publications
- Human resource management for the IT organization
- Facilities management for the IT organization
- Advanced technology, technology R&D
- Staff who support these functions (administrative and clerical)
- CIO or CTO position

**Administrative/Enterprise Information Systems**
Administrative/enterprise information systems include legacy administrative systems or enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems such as student administration (admissions, financial aid, registration, etc.), financial information systems, procurement systems, human resource systems, payroll, research administration (grants and contracts), and library systems (if supported by the IT organization). For the purpose of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Development and implementation of these systems
- Maintenance of these systems
- Training of users of these systems
- Programming support related to these systems
- Database/data administration
- Hardware, software, staff, and other infrastructure needed to support these systems

**Biometrics**
In computer security, biometrics refers to authentication techniques that rely on measurable physical characteristics that can be automatically checked. Examples include retinal scans, computer analysis of fingerprints or speech, or other physiological means of user identification for security purposes.

**Blogs**
Refers to web logs that are analogous to personal online diaries in which individuals share their observations and opinions.

**Broadband**
In the human resources context, broadband refers to an approach to job classification and pay structure that is broader and flatter than traditional systems, characterized by wider salary ranges and fewer job titles and vertical levels.

**Calculating the Estimate of Dollar Equivalent for Systems and Services**
There is no one formula for calculating the dollar equivalent of systems and services provided at no direct charge to its campuses by the central office in a multicampus system or district. One simple, straightforward methodology might
be to estimate the system or district office’s total cost in providing system-wide or district-wide IT systems and services, then allocate an estimated cost for each campus in the system or district based on campus FTE or other means of estimating usage. EDUCAUSE has set up a website providing examples from system offices that worked with their campuses to provide estimates for the 2007 core data survey. See http://net.educause.edu/coredata/s2q1_calculation.asp.

**Capital Appropriation**

Refers to appropriation to the central IT organization from the campus capital budget to fund major purchases and implementations such as networks, ERP systems, and buildings. Does not include capital appropriations amortized through rates; an example of a capital appropriation amortized through rates would be funds derived from taking out a loan or drawing on the institution’s endowment for an initiative such as a major network enhancement or a phone switch. Such special funds require payback and are usually repaid through a fee structure.

**Computers**

Refers to all devices that have the basic functionality of a microcomputer (e.g., desktops, laptops, servers). It does not refer to Palm devices or personal digital assistants.

**Consultants**

Refers to individuals or a firm that advises or consults with the institution about information technology plans or directions, either in general or with regard to a specific technology implementation or project.

**Contractors**

Refers to employees with whom the institution contracts to provide IT infrastructure and/or specific IT services that might otherwise be delivered by in-house IT staff. For the purposes of our survey, consultants are not to be included in the “contractors” category. If your campus outsources all or nearly all IT services and the outsourcer provides staff on site, please count these employees as staff as opposed to contractors.

**Desktop Computing Support, User Support Services, Training, Computer Store**

For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Desktop computer technical analysis and consulting staff
- Computer resale activities and staff
- Computer installation, maintenance, and repair
- Technicians and technical support for desktop computing
- Computer repair staff
- Support for knowledge bases, self-help tools
- General user training and education and related staff
- User documentation and general informational publications and related staff
- Infrastructure support for departmental IT support providers
- User support staff (other than help desk staff)
- Reference desk and staff (if you wish to distribute library/IT staff in a merged organization)

**E-Portfolios**

An e-portfolio is a digitized collection of artifacts used to document accomplishments of an individual or institution. The collection may contain text-based, graphic, or multimedia elements archived on a website or on other electronic media such as a CD-ROM or DVD. E-portfolios can be used as a tool in student advising, to document learning outcomes and institutional quality for accreditation, or to demonstrate accomplishments for career searches.

**E-Learning**

Refers to learning content or interaction that is facilitated electronically, such as delivery of digital content or use of threaded online discussion.

**ERP**

Refers to an integrated suite of administrative information systems designed to support and automate business processes through a
centralized database system. In higher education, these systems usually include student systems, financial systems, and human resource (payroll/personnel) systems, as well as warehouse and planning tools.

**Electronic Signatures**
Refers to data appended to a message or document that authenticates the identity of the message sender or document signer to ensure that the message or document content has not been changed in the transmission process.

**Enterprise Directory**
Refers to a database where different types of identifiers are correlated to support identity management, authentication, authorization, and other services.

**Enterprise Infrastructure and Services, Identity Management**
For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Portal development and support
- Middleware development and support
- Security infrastructure development and support
- Service-oriented architecture (web services) development and support
- Identity management
- E-mail
- Staff, hardware, and software to support enterprise infrastructure

**External Modules**
Refers to modules that are not part of the core application suite, that is, a module that you create or purchase that allows you more functionality than the core application.

**FTE**
Refers to full-time-equivalent personnel, not number of individuals employed. For the purposes of our survey, please calculate FTE based on a 40-hour work week over the course of the full fiscal year (or approximately 2,000 hours per year). For student FTE, a simple formula for calculating total FTE might be to take the number of students employed times the number of hours per week they work times the number of weeks a year they work and divide that total by 2,000. The total FTE number derived can then be distributed across the 13 functional areas listed in question 5 of section 1.

**Firewalls**
Refers to a set of related programs and policies that protects the resources of a private network from users on other networks. A firewall can also control what outside resources users of the private network can access.

**Help Desk**
For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Walk-in support for students, faculty, and staff
- Call-in support for students, faculty, and staff
- Call centers
- Support for knowledge bases, self-help tools
- Specialized support centers
- Help desk staff

**Hybrid Course**
Refers to a course in which part of the course is delivered online and part is delivered in face-to-face class meetings. Hybrid courses typically reduce the number of days of face-to-face class meetings (for example, from three to two meetings).

**IPEDS**
The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems (IPEDS) is a single, comprehensive, data-collection program designed to capture data for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) for all U.S. institutions and educational organizations whose primary purpose is to provide postsecondary education. IPEDS collects institution-level data in such areas as enrollments, program completions, faculty, staff, and finances. IPEDS data reporting requires the extensive effort of a variety of offices on any campus, and this is the “official” information the college or university stands behind, used by the federal government.
**IPTV (Internet Protocol Television)**

Refers to a system where a digital television service is delivered to subscribing consumers using the Internet Protocol over a broadband connection.

**Information Literacy Requirement**

Refers to a requirement to prove the student knows how to find relevant information resources online but also can evaluate the quality of the resource and use technology appropriately for search, categorization, retrieval, and analysis, as well as understand the ethics associated with the use of intellectual property.

**Information Technology Policy**

For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- IT policy development, dissemination, and education
- Information usage/management policy development and education
- Interpretation of current policy related to specific issues, situations, and incidents
- Coordinating response to incidents of inappropriate use of information or information technology
- Policy staff

**Information Technology Security**

For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Vulnerability analysis
- Security planning and design and implementation
- Security policy and process development
- User education and guidance programs
- Incident response
- Security administration staff

**Instructional Technology, Multimedia Services, Student Computing**

For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Classroom technology (physical renovation and maintenance; provision of fixed and mobile technology)
- Course management systems (homegrown or purchased)
- Specialized training and support for faculty
- Specialized training and support for students
- Instructional support staff (including technologists and designers)
- Multimedia services (support for audio, video, graphics, and so forth)
- TV, broadcasting
- Public student lab support
- Teaching and technology center staff

**Interactive Learning**

Refers to learning environments that involve interaction between the student and (a) faculty, (b) other students, or (c) resources. Interactive learning can involve Q&A, simulations, games, role-playing, experimentation, and so forth.

**Learning Objects**

Refers to reusable digital learning material, such as a simulation, data set, or glossary. Learning objects include metadata, which allows them to be categorized and searched.

**Library/IT Staff**

If your campus IT organization has merged with the campus library, please include in your staff count only the library FTE personnel who perform IT-related functions. Do not include library FTE who support traditional library functions that do not relate to technology. You may distribute your library/IT FTE among the 13 functional areas listed or you may enter the total FTE for this category of staff in the “other” category and describe them as “library/IT staff.” If your IT organization has not merged with the library but you have staff supporting library systems, please include these staff in your count for Administrative/Enterprise Information Systems.

**Net Revenue**

Refers to revenue remaining after accounting for expenditures for products and the cost of doing business.
Network Infrastructure and Services
For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Wire and cable infrastructure for data and video networks
- Campus data network
- Remote access (modem pools, ISP)
- Commodity Internet
- High-performance research network (e.g., Abilene)
- Video network
- Converged network
- Wireless network
- Staff, hardware, and software for network infrastructure

Operating Appropriation
Refers to the allocation to the central IT organization from the campus operating budget that is generally used to cover all noncapital IT operations costs such as staff compensation and benefits, operating expenses, equipment (including maintenance and repair), software licenses, and so forth.

Operations, Data Center, Print/Copier Services, Mailroom
For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Systems administration and operation
- System backups
- Data center environmental support systems such as HVAC, UPS, and backup power supply, and systems monitor
- Print services
- Copier services
- Mail room services
- Staff, hardware, and software affiliated with these functions

Outsource or ASP
Outsource in this context refers to contracting with an external entity or vendor to provide IT services or infrastructure that you might otherwise have employed your IT staff to perform. It does not refer to an arrangement with another part of your institution or with a system office. ASP refers to an arrangement with an application service provider to provide services remotely using high-speed private networks. A common example is a website that other websites use for accepting payment by credit card as part of their online ordering systems.

PKI
Public key infrastructure (PKI) refers to a system of public key encryption using digital certificates from Certificate Authorities and other registration authorities that verify and authenticate the validity of each party involved in an electronic transaction.

Portal
Refers to an approach to an institution’s website that aims to leverage investments in enterprise information systems, data warehouses, and infrastructure by providing a seamless and easy-to-navigate web interface to an integrated set of information services for various campus constituents.

Research Computing, Academic Computing
For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Research computing hardware and software
- Research computing cycles from remote sites
- Staff for research computing consulting and technical assistance
- Academic hardware and software that does not relate to instruction
- Discipline-specific applications development, programming, and support not related to instruction
- General statistical support

Shaping
“Shaping” bandwidth utilization refers to adjusting parameters on the campus Internet connection to limit use through various means, such as type of connection, location of connection, direction of traffic, time of day, or other specific characteristics.
Smart Cards

Refers to a small electronic device about the size of a credit card that contains electronic memory, and possibly an embedded integrated circuit. Smart cards are used for a variety of purposes, including storing information, storing digital cash, and providing a means to access computer networks.

Staff

Refers to all staff employed by the central IT organization, including clerical, technical, and management staff and limited-term or temporary employees who were employed for fiscal year 2006–2007. For the purposes of our survey, if your campus contracted with a vendor or external organization to provide all or nearly all IT services during that period, including all IT staff on site, please count the employees of the outsourcer as staff rather than contractors. If your IT organization has merged with the library, please include in your staff count only the library FTE personnel who perform IT-related functions (see Library/IT Staff).

Telephony

For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Wire and cable infrastructure for voice network
- Dial tone (including services to student housing)
- Voice mail
- Long-distance resale
- Cellular and paging services
- Telephony staff, hardware, software, etc.

Token

Refers to a small physical device used to authenticate the holder to a computer system or network. Tokens can hold cryptographic keys or provide one-time passwords. Tokens typically require a user-entered PIN and therefore can directly implement two-factor authentication.

Two-Factor Authentication

Refers to any authentication protocol that requires two forms of authentication to access a system. This contrasts with traditional password authentication, which requires only one factor (knowledge of a password) in order to gain access to a system. Three standard kinds of authentication factors are recognized: something you know (such as a password or PIN), something you have (such as a credit card or a hardware token), or something you are (such as a fingerprint, a retinal pattern, or other biometrics).

Web Services

Refers to a standardized way of integrating web-based applications using the XML, SOAP, WSDL, and UDDI open standards over an Internet Protocol backbone. XML is used to tag the data, SOAP is used to transfer the data, WSDL is used for describing the services available, and UDDI is used for listing what services are available. Used primarily as a means for businesses to communicate with each other and with clients, web services allow organizations to communicate data without intimate knowledge of each other’s IT systems behind the firewall. Web services are sometimes referred to as application services.

Web Support Services

For the purposes of our survey, please include the following in this area if applicable:

- Content management support
- Web server support
- Content design and web-based publication
- Web-based applications development or interface
- Web support staff, hardware, and software

Wiki

Refers to an editable web page that can be edited by anyone with access to the wiki.

Wireless Security Technologies

Refers to technologies used to prevent unauthorized access, ensure the confidentiality of data, and detect misuse of wireless networks.