

Organizational Excellence Initiative Summary

Initiative Title: Server/Data Center Centralization

Initiative Contacts:

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Initiative Sponsor(s):

- Rick Downs, ITS – Enterprise Infrastructure, 924-0653; rtd2m@virginia.edu
- Keith Moores, ITS – Enterprise Infrastructure, 924-0621; kmm6b@virginia.edu
- Organizational Excellence Leadership Council – Bob Pianta, chair
(Project updates will be provided and requests for input on decisions as needed)

Core Team Members – Current Project Phase

Dana German	CIO Strategic Projects and Initiatives
Rick Downs	ITS Enterprise Infrastructure
Keith Moores	ITS Enterprise Infrastructure
Dale Robinson	ITS Enterprise Infrastructure
Sandy German	ITS User Experience and Engagement
Mike Clancy	ITS Enterprise Infrastructure
Pete Thorsen	ITS Enterprise Infrastructure
Jym Kelly	ITS Enterprise Infrastructure
Kathy Kimball	CIO Information Security

(Note: Project team members will meet with each ITAC representative individually, along with other designated members from the various units and schools, as part of the targeted marking phase.)

Problem Statement

The University has numerous servers that are running a variety of administrative, academic and research computing applications in many locations across Grounds. This distributed model does not leverage economies of scale when possible, and it is difficult to ensure the appropriate infrastructure and security requirements are being met.

Project Overview:

Project Description

Server and data center consolidation will unify resources in order to more efficiently manage maintenance of the servers and provide higher quality services. Server consolidation will improve service levels, reduce costs and reduce data security risks. The aggregation will enable the application of industry-standards for security and management of services.

Scope

All Academic Division units are in-scope for consideration of moving to centralized server/data center services, as appropriate.

Additional data regarding existing decentralized servers/data centers will be collected and analyzed and the most compelling cases for centralized services will be identified for more targeted marketing. This will include areas that would derive the most benefit from centralized services and/or reduce University risk and liability, per improvements in system monitoring and system administration, redundancy, security, environmental controls, etc.

This project is primarily centered around on-premise centralized server/data center services, however, strong candidates for cloud-based services may emerge. Centralized support for the brokerage for cloud services will be considered, as/if appropriate and available.

Project Goals/Objectives:

Goals:

This project is being implemented to achieve the following goals:

- Education and awareness of Academic Division units regarding centralized services and the benefits they offer (cooling, monitoring, security, generator/backup, etc.)
 - Defining the services that the centralized Server/Data Center would provide in comparison to the services that the schools or units currently provide.
- Migration of disparate data center/server locations across the University into a centralized, secure location, where appropriate
- Reduction in cost and risk to the University by consolidating services centrally at scale.

Timeline:

- Phase I (Natural Growth: Website updated regarding service offerings/fees and soft marketing of central services to all Academic Division units) February 28, 2015
- Phase II (Data Collection and Targeted Marketing) June 30, 2015
- Phase III-A (Documentation of results from Phases I and II, including remaining decentralized areas that are best candidates for centralized services) August 2015

