



PERMANENT MEMORANDUM 49 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GOVERNANCE

POLICY DIGEST

Monitoring Unit: Office of Information Technology Services

Initially Issued: January 14, 2021

I. PURPOSE

The University's Information Technology (IT) resources must be in alignment with the University's strategies and provide for the effective and efficient use of IT in enabling the University, and each LSU institution, to fulfill its mission. To accomplish this purpose, this policy establishes an IT Governance program providing a formalized framework for input and decision-making in a centralized manner, while leveraging the autonomous benefits of a decentralized University IT environment. This framework shall provide a consistent Governance structure necessary to guide University-wide IT strategy, based on an acceptable level of risk, and promote collaboration among and between the LSU institutions, where appropriate, to accomplish shared goals.

II. DEFINITIONS

Chancellor – Refers to the chief administrative officer of a campus or major administrative subdivision of the University, other than LSU A&M, as designated by the Board, regardless of the actual title held by the individual serving the institution in that capacity.

Chief Information Officer (CIO) – Refers to the chief information officer, or head of information technology for an LSU institution, regardless of the actual title held by the individual serving the institution in that capacity.

IT Governance – Refers to the framework, policies, standards, structures, and processes established by the University and each LSU institution to ensure that IT strategies and resources are in alignment with stated goals. IT Governance strategic oversight shall include, but not be limited to, the following broad IT functional areas: strategic planning, risk management, asset management, performance/metrics, costs and funding, shared services, project prioritization, and security.

LSU Institutions - All entities of the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College (LSU) as defined by the [Bylaws](#).

University - Refers to the collection of campuses, academic programs, facilities, and other assets governed by the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana State University

Agricultural and Mechanical College (LSU) as defined by the [Bylaws](#).

III. GENERAL POLICY

A. Authority

IT Governance is the responsibility of the LSU President, under the direction of the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College (LSU). Authority is granted to the LSU Executive IT Governance Council (EITGC) to ensure adherence to University expectations for IT Governance providing for oversight across five specified areas of responsibility, as outlined below.

B. LSU Executive Information Technology Governance Council (EITGC)

The LSU EITGC shall be composed of an executive-level representative from each LSU institution, as appointed by the respective Chancellor, with approval by the LSU President. The representative must have decision-making authority on behalf of the institution. The Chief Information Officer (CIO) of each LSU institution shall serve in an advisory capacity as a non-voting member.

The LSU EITGC is responsible for the development and maintenance of appropriate University-wide IT policies and plans as well as compliance in these matters by the LSU institutions. In fulfilling this role, the LSU EITGC shall establish and maintain an IT Governance program that addresses the following five IT governance areas:

1. Governance of IT Enterprise (Framework Setting and Maintenance);
2. Risk Optimization;
3. Resource Optimization;
4. Benefits Delivery; and
5. Stakeholder Engagement (Strategy Alignment)

C. LSU Institutional Information Technology

Each LSU institution shall develop an IT Governance Committee to provide appropriate oversight of IT matters in alignment with the institutional mission and the LSU EITGC framework.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. Oversight and reporting requirements

The LSU President shall approve the overarching IT Governance program framework.

The LSU EITGC will provide a report to the LSU Board of Supervisors annually or upon request. Each LSU institution will provide the LSU EITGC an annual report as well as periodic updates, as requested. Institutional reporting requirements shall include, but not be limited to, IT strategy, IT metrics/performance, IT risk, IT security, and IT costs.