

KANSAS LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

545N-Statehouse, 300 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1504
(785) 296-3181 ♦ FAX (785) 296-3824

kslegres@klrd.state.ks.us

<http://www.kslegislature.org/klrd>

January 16, 2007

To: Rep. Jim Morrison, Chairperson

From: Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Re: Government Efficiency and Technology Committee Discussion of Regents' Institutions

Yesterday during our discussion with JG Scott, KLRD Chief Fiscal Analyst, regarding procedures that this Committee might use to assist the Budget Committees with their decisions about technology expenditures, the following ideas were developed for further discussion.

- The timing of the appropriations process is such that a comprehensive review of agency technology budget requests will not be possible during the 2007 session.
 - If a Budget Committee seeks assistance of this Committee in regard to a particular agency budget, this Committee would provide that assistance. Any such assistance would in all likelihood necessitate alteration of this Committee's agenda.
- In regard to technology and efficiency, this Committee might adopt a goal of facilitating coordination of agency efforts and expenditures.
- As a first project, the Committee might review the Regent's IT planning processes with an eye toward coordination with other state agencies, within the Regent's system, and across the gamut of post secondary educational institutions. This project likely would occupy most of the Committee's time this session because of the large amount of background information that would be needed by the Committee. The initial background sessions might be conceptualized as exploration of three layers of activity: Executive Branch in general, Board of Regents coordinating activities, and individual institutions.
 - Exploration of how the Regents IT processes interface with the larger state IT planning processes might begin with a discussion with the Executive Branch Chief Information Technology Officer, Denise Moore.
 - That discussion could be followed with an exploration, with the appropriate staff from the Board of Regent's central office, of the central coordination and planning processes for IT functions.
 - That would be followed by an exploration of individual institutions' planning and coordination processes (both within the institution and among institutions).
- In terms of Committee procedures, some observations are worth discussion:
 - Probing questions would be in order at any time;
 - At the end of each meeting, the Committee might take 15 minutes or so to identify questions or an approach that might lend itself to the next "level" of exploration;

- Discipline would be required to stay at the appropriate level of detail during each discussion (For most of these sessions, planning and coordination, rather than implementation of specific applications might be the appropriate level);
 - The discussion period at the end of each meeting also might be used to identify any information the Committee believes should be conveyed to the pertinent Budget Committee (those communications might be made weekly, except in the event of a time sensitive situation).