ITPB Wireless Subgroup

March 3, 2008 and April 7, 2008 Meetings

1. At the January 2008 ITPB meeting, the ITPB discussed and agreed to the wireless working group recommendation for a field assessment to determine access point locations and costs to provide wireless coverage for the inside and outside locations requested by students (see attached). The objective is to be responsive to student needs to the extent possible in the short run.

Upon further review and refinement, the following recommendations are made:

a. **Proceed with the assessments/implementation of the general open and other areas on the student list.** These assessments are within the range of services currently funded through TIF and are therefore a reasonable TIF expenditure. The expectation is that upon completion of the assessment there will be a prioritization process to determine which areas will proceed with deployment of wireless - the constraint being available funding within TIF (Technology Infrastructure Fee) and without raising the TIF rate.

The areas identified by USAC that have been completed include the following six general open areas:

1. Housing lounge areas
2. Kerckhoff study rooms
4. YRL fringe areas
5. Jimmy’s coffee House (Luvalle Patio)
6. Bruin Walk (North of ASUCLA)

The areas identified by USAC that will be completed include the following three general areas:

7. Inverted Fountain
8. Court of Sciences
9. LaKretz.

The remaining areas identified by USAC that require improvement and will be part of the assessment include the following general / open areas:

1. Wooden
2. Pauley course way
3. Royce
4. Franz
5. Fowler
6. Haines
7. Kinsey
8. Pavilion
9. Bunche
10. Math Science
11. Student activities center
12. Fowler
13. Perloff
14. Janss Steps
15. Center for Health Sciences (CHS)
16. Med School courtyard
17. General assignment classrooms
b. **Support review and recommendations of wireless in general assignment classrooms by the Faculty Committee on Education Technology (FCET) and coordinated by the Office of Instructional Development (OID).** Students had requested wireless for several academic buildings. Further review surfaced that classrooms under the control of a particular academic unit either already had wireless coverage or it had been determined that for academic reasons wireless in particular rooms would not be provided. The classrooms in question are general assignment classrooms that are used by many faculty from multiple disciplines. There is faculty concern about wireless in the General Assignment classrooms. Assessments would proceed only upon resolution of the wireless and the academic expectations and requirements for these rooms.

c. **Proceed with a preliminary assessment of costs to deploy wireless in CHS.** Students had a general request for wireless within the Center for Health Sciences, including the Medical School courtyard. In addition, some students also work with faculty in labs, clinical areas and administrative offices in a number of adjacent buildings. As a result, the School of Medicine would like to proceed with full wireless coverage within the CHS complex as well as the adjacent medical buildings. Due to the size of the School of Medicine installation, the recommendation is to fund the assessment with the remaining TIF approved assessment funds above and to have the Office of Information Technology (OIT) work to provide the additional funds needed (estimated at $40K).

d. **Review the School of Medicine wireless initiative as potential TIER (Technology Infrastructure for Education and Research) initiative.** There is a near term action to be responsive to student needs to the extent possible, but also to manage the deployment of aging technology while we determine the next major iteration of technology. The School of Medicine deployment is precedent setting in that it would be a broad-based deployment integrated into existing locally/regionally-managed, UCLA Connect-funded wired networks. To be considered as TIER initiative and to be eligible for funding, it is understood that the School of Medicine wireless deployment would comply with the technical standards and operating model as defined by the Next Generation Network team, and would be consistent with the requirements for any other future campus-funded wireless deployments. The preliminary School of Medicine assessment in paragraph (c) would provide needed information to construct a proposal for TIER IT Functional Oversight Review.

2. In considering the next major iteration of wireless technology, the ITPB wireless subgroup should plan for the next major iteration of wireless technology with a focus on institutional objectives and not be constrained by how the current technologies have been deployed.

A list of the potential drivers is as follows:
   a. coverage that supports mobility for voice and data
   b. coverage that supports dual mode voice/data devices
c. coverage that supports RFID use and other forms of institutional data collection and use, i.e. transportation, sensor networks

d. technology that supports local and/or shared management of in-building access points

e. technology that supports guest and visitor access that can be locally managed while provided centrally to the campus.

f. technology that supports wireless video streaming
g. standard acceptable security practices as well as policy that minimizes rogue networks

h. identify options for off-campus wireless access to UCLA resources (potentially provisioned through a variety of options and/or providers)

3. ITPB wireless subgroup had originally recommended a “survey” to understand the future requirements for the campus with which to further develop and confirm the list of compelling drivers/expectations. In considering the parameters of this kind of information gathering exercise, we are recommending an environmental scan that includes realistic visioning with other ITPB workgroups, realistic projection of technology trends and lifecycles through the Next Generation Network team, and information gathering about campus interest in understood wireless trends and comparisons with other institutions.

In this regard, we are recommending that:

a. The CCLE, Data Management and Research CI workgroups convene to envision short and longer-term wireless expectations for research and education.

b. The Office of Information Technology and Administration organize focus groups with such areas as Medical Center and its’ clinical enterprises, General Services (Facilities Management), Transportation Services, Inventory Operations, UCLA Police Department, Student Affairs, Libraries and Housing to develop a campus perspective on emerging wireless supported directions.

c. The Next Generation Network team review emerging technologies and implementation trends at other institutions and provide recommendations on the technical deployment and operating models to best meet campus requirements and expectations and/or stage a deployment that can meet short- and long- term expectations.