**University of Central Arkansas**

**Information Systems and Technology**

**Faculty Senate Report**

**IST Future Plans**

IST has several projects in the discussion/planning stages that will have an impact or effect on the faculty, staff, and students of the university. These projects are meant to keep the IT infrastructure and resources of UCA up-to-date and provide the best overall technology experience to the campus community.

1. Windows 10
	1. IST is developing a plan for the campus-wide rollout of Windows 10 Enterprise.
	2. July 2017 - all new computers will come with Windows 10 Enterprise installed.
	3. July 2017 - IST will begin the phased rollout of Windows 10 Enterprise to the campus. A more comprehensive timeline will be available in the fall semester.
	4. July 2017 - Any employee who would like to have a UCA computer upgraded to Windows 10 Enterprise may contact the IST Help Desk to make arrangements for that installation.
	5. July 2018 - IST will remove from the supported list all computers not capable of running Windows 10 Enterprise.
	6. January 2020 - This is the end of life/end of support date for Windows 7. At that time, all UCA-owned computers running any operating system prior to Windows 10 will be blocked from the campus network.
2. New Strategic Plan for Campus Technology
	1. The current strategic plan has focused on remediation projects and rehabilitation of the campus infrastructure. Although there are parts of the plan that are still in process, the plan is considered complete.
	2. IST will be working on developing a new campus technology plan starting in the fall semester.
	3. The planning process will involve input from all academic and administrative areas of campus.
	4. Projects included in the new strategic plan will focus on leverage technology for better teaching and learning; streamlining business processes; and keeping UCA on the forefront of technology (and not playing “catch-up”).
	5. Most of IST’s projects and initiatives for the coming five-year period will be defined by this document.
3. Remote Access
	1. IST is currently in the process of finishing a remote access project for the university.
	2. This will give all employees a secure VPN connection back to campus while using a UCA-owned computer off campus.
	3. This provides employees the same level of security while on public Internet as is provided while using the computer on campus.
4. Desktop/Laptop Computers
	1. IST is investigating the diversification of our current approved computer lineup.
	2. Currently there is only one approved model of desktop computer and one approved model of laptop computer available for purchase.
	3. We are evaluating offering more than one model of desktop and laptop computer as well as adding certain tablet devices to the supported list.