



**Information Technology Committee (ITC) Minutes:
January 21, 2026, at 11 am - noon (regular meeting), via Zoom**

Meeting Information:

Circulated: 2/19/2026

Approved: 2/25/2026

Present: Quentin Stout (Chair), Mashon Allen (VP's Chief of Staff), Natasha Allen, Susan Borda, Jesse Capecelatro (SACUA liaison), James Cranford, Ivo Dinov, Lydia Fettig, Bruce Maxim, Ravi Pendse (VP for Information Technology and CIO), David Potter, Angelica Previero (RSG graduate student representative), Larissa Sano

Absent: Michael Bohanon, Daphne Welter (CSG undergraduate student representative), Jeffrey Yackley

Minutes:

1. The meeting was called to order and the December minutes were approved by consent.
2. AI in Education Working Group update and discussion
 - a. VP Pendse shared that the working group is chaired by Mika LaVaque-Manty with representatives from many disciplines. The group was given a charge with a final report due end of April. The hope is that the working group be allowed to do complete its work and then its recommendations can be discussed and debated.
 - b. ITC member Ivo Dinov is a working group member, and he offered to bring issues from ITC to the group. The working group will focus on undergraduate education across the schools and colleges and identify ways to develop much needed AI literacy. There is not a website for the working group at this time.
 - c. ITC discussion covered the following topics. Here are some examples of [online AI training modules](#). It is important that AI not erode critical thinking and deep learning. AI challenges are a “people problem,” not a “computer problem.” Challenges in the humanities include -- students failing courses because of their AI use, GSIs’ needing more time to grade, and pressure to assign less papers. Engineering also faces challenges -- a need to change all of the computational assignments and problems with the use of ChatGPT in class and during exams. If AI can do students’ assignments, are such assignments no longer relevant? The fast-pace of AI development makes planning difficult. A faculty member may use AI effectively because of their strong skill sets, but students don’t have this strong skill set. Some faculty are assigning more multiple-choice exams and more presentation assignments. There have been library requests for [sources that don’t exist](#).
 - d. VP Pendse commented that students need to develop an AI IQ – when not to use AI, literacy with AI environmental impacts, and with AI hallucinations. Some tech leaders have said that the humanities have become even more important given the challenges posed by AI.
3. ITS engagement with the general public
 - a. VP Pendse shared that ITS engages with Michigan communities in a variety of ways. As part of the Look to Michigan campaign, VP Pendse met with the MI chief innovation officer, the MI chief information officer and with school superintendents, and also spoke to two legislative committees. These meetings were not only about U-M, but about the whole state.
 - b. ITS has also developed a [GotoCollege](#) tool which helps connect high school and college students to millions of scholarships and grants within MI and across the country. ITS is also developing a career dashboard for students, with interest from both MI and the US Dept. of Education.



- c. There was discussion about how to do a better job of communicating U-M's value. Michigan Medicine's [Michigan Answers](#) is one such campaign. Such promotional campaigns are also much needed for U-M Flint and U-M Dearborn. There were questions about the target audience of such campaigns, and VP for Government Relations speaks regularly with legislators. It was noted that [Senator Gary Peters gave a shout out to U-M](#) during a federal hearing.
4. Open Discussion on ITC member topics
 - a. There was a question about [Great Lakes 2](#). VP Pendse said that, at a future meeting, Brock Palen could provide ITC with an update. In brief, U-M's current high-powered computing cluster needs updating, and there is a growth of 2+ petabytes of storage every three months. Such computing requires electricity, computer chips, and storage. ITS is working on a RFP with legal counsel to lease a facility. There is sensitivity to people's feelings about the planned Ypsi center.
 - b. U-M will host an [open house on January 9th on the proposed high-performance computing facility](#). While the event is currently sold out, ITS will see if additional seats could become available.
 - c. A question was asked about life-cycle planning for such facilities – what happens after 5 years? Others echoed a need for such planning. In addition, data not actively used can be moved to cheaper archival storage. VP Pendse will look into options to more easily archive Canvas data. U-M works with a hardware disposal facility that wipes data and then destroys or sells the hardware.
 - d. The transition to [Okta occurs on February 25th, 2026 and Okta enrollment is now open](#). The academic year is better than summer for the Okta enrollment because of issues such as overseas summer travel. The Michigan Medicine transition will happen at the same time. ITS is also cleaning up old accounts, such as alumni accounts that are no longer being used.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Marshall (FSO, Faculty Governance Coordinator)