

### **TIER Fund Use Principles and Process for FY2006-07**

The ITFOC met to provide initial input on the following question: “What are the considerations that should guide the most effective use of the TIER funds portion of the TIF for campus infrastructure implementation proposals that fall within TIER project objectives?” Based on the ITFOC input, the following are principles/process statements about how Next Generation Infrastructure for research and education (TIER) funds would be used:

#### **TIER Fund Use Principles/Process**

1. The Chancellor has assigned a portion of the Technology Infrastructure Fee (TIF), now being collected, to the TIER Project. The EVC and the Office of Finance and Budget have authority over the fund. Approximately \$2.1 million per year is collected. The Office of Finance and Budget will determine the precise amount available for TIER for a given FY.
2. TIER funds will be used to further the goals of the TIER project and the criteria and models (when completed) for the next generation campus IT infrastructure for network, email, data center, and security resources and services.
3. TIER funds should be used to compliment an existing funding base. The corollary is that TIER funds should not be used as replacement funds for lost or reassigned funds in a capital project (as an example). Building upon an existing base, TIER funds should be used to position the project to align with the next generation network criteria and eventual architecture.
4. The allocation of TIER funds should be used as an incentive for units to move towards a campus infrastructure architecture that optimizes for both local and campus needs. The allocation of funds should, however, respect and accommodate the fact that individual units have needs that may be different than the needs of other units. OIT will work with departments to achieve balance for both institutional and local needs.
5. It is understood that the criteria and models for TIER are not deterministic but need to evolve and/or be developed as experiences build. In the short term, the TIER project director along with campus technical teams will develop, refine, evolve and publish criteria to which proposals must adhere. Ultimately, these teams will develop the next generation campus infrastructure model and strategies for implementation.
6. The evolving criteria and models will be vetted through the IT governance process, i.e. CSG, CITI, ITPB and other stakeholders with orchestration and oversight through the ITFOC.
7. The call letter for networking projects should come from the Chancellor’s annual strategic planning and budget process.
8. Funding proposals and needs from individual units will be assimilated by OIT into a FY TIER spending plan. Accordingly, proposals will have to demonstrate that any proposed expenditure is aligned to the goals of the TIER project and align with the next generation network criteria and model (when completed). In developing a FY proposal OIT will consult with the departments involved. When opportunities or urgent requirements are present, OIT will accommodate proposals outside of the FY plan. Funding proposals must also align with the goals of the TIER project and align with the next generation campus network criteria and model (when completed).
9. FY plans, and when appropriate proposals outside the FY plan, will be reviewed by the ITFOC with comments to the ITPB. Comments from the ITPB will be forwarded to the EVC and the Office of Finance and Budget for consideration. OIT will have the review and endorsement authority of a given FY plan or proposals outside the FY plan. The Office of Finance and Budget will make final decision and release TIER funding.

**For FY 06/07, the early criteria for the next generation network model for which proposals for funding must align:**

1. Independent networks that move to consolidate networks within a building or within a geographical or functional region should be a priority of the TIER program and funding.<sup>1</sup>
2. Funding must be consistent with the provision of a non-duplicative and/or non-overlapping networking service within a given geographical space. (i.e., TIER funds will not be used to install multiple, overlapping networks in a building when a simpler network structure would suffice).
3. Any department/group for which funding is being provided must commit to being part of the next generation network (NGN) model as it becomes established under the assumption that the unit is not negatively impacted.
4. A network design and configuration must be vetted by the NGN working group and the Campus Network Architect for technical compliance with the expected NGN model (this is an evolving process; standards that are approved in the beginning may not be the final standards six to twelve months later).
5. Adherence of networks to evolving security standards should be auditable by the appropriate security office - currently that responsibility is with the OIT Security Officer and the Applied Security Task Force.
6. All network build-outs or upgrades, independent of funding source, should adhere to the campus network model.
7. Network equipment purchased through TIER funds, should, where appropriate, become available for redistribution. These exchanges should be facilitated to ensure that a local unit is not disadvantaged and that benefits of the exchange accrue to local units and the campus.
8. All TIER funded equipment will be maintained at current (up-to-date with the current manufacturer supported) operating software levels<sup>2</sup> to ensure security and functional requirements are met<sup>3</sup>. Maintenance of TIER equipment should be a cost of the participating unit and a mechanism to ensure equipment is being maintained is needed<sup>4</sup>.
9. All TIER funded equipment will provide operational visibility for local, regional and central providers. The TIER project will provide services for network monitoring and diagnostics such that authorized individuals with operational accountability or responsibilities for a UCLA network will have access to information and tools to enable them to diagnose, troubleshoot, and solve network problems across UCLA networks.<sup>5</sup>
10. Independent of funding mechanism, appropriate electrical and air conditioning must be provided for all communication rooms that house any TIER-funded electronic as specified by the manufacturer's recommendations.

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<sup>1</sup> Addition based on recommendations made at the ITFOC Meeting on April 27, 2007.

<sup>2</sup> Revisions based on recommendations made at the ITFOC Meeting on April 27, 2007.

<sup>3</sup> Revisions based on recommendations made at the NGN and CSG meetings in May 2007.

<sup>4</sup> Revisions based on recommendations made at ITPB meeting – June 5, 2007. **With revision the document was endorsed by the ITPB for the 2006-2007 projects.**

<sup>5</sup> Addition / modifications based on the recommendation at the ITFOC meeting on April 27, 2007, as well as at the Next Generation Network Group meeting on May 16, 2007.