TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The University should consider the following recommendations regarding its technology infrastructure

A. Information Technology should evaluate increasing personnel to maintain and equip the infrastructure of the university. As the use of technology at the University increases, there will be additional functions that Information Technology will be tasked with. IT may need additional staff to meet these needs.

B. The Information Technology Help Desk should expand its services to provide further hardware and software support for students' computers. Additional support may require more personnel.

C.   Information Technology should enhance campus infrastructure to support the increased number of mobile devices.   Utilizing a centralized mobile device management system will allow the University to enforce computing policies across the wide array of devices students will bring to campus. The University will need to expand wi-fi coverage and increase internet bandwidth.

D. Information Technology should consider strategic resource planning for the reallocation of space and finances from computer labs to spaces for student collaboration with technology, charging of devices, printing and future needs.

E. Information Technology should explore implementing a virtual computer lab utilizing Cloud technology (local intranet or remote) to provide access to specialized software and secure file storage for students and faculty.

F. The Information Technology Committee (ITC) should establish an executive committee whose mission is to keep abreast of the leading technologies in education. The committee will make recommendations to administration and ITC regarding strategic planning for the integration of these technologies.

2. The University should consider the following recommendations regarding technology and students coming to the university in 2020

A. The Provost should explore phasing in a requirement that all students possess a device which would allow the utilization of mobile technologies in the educational environment. This will need to be implemented in conjunction with changes in teaching methodology to ensure that the devices are utilized. There needs to be strategic planning for academic computing to adapt for this fundamental change in teaching methodology.

B. The ITC should establish minimum computer hardware requirements for all students. Individual departments may establish more stringent requirements based on what their graduates will need to know and be able to do. These requirements should be evaluated on a yearly basis to keep up with emerging technologies.

C. The OIT/CSTL (Office of Instructional Technology / Center for Scholarship in Teaching and Learning) should explore creating a center for technology assistance and

remediation in Kent Library for on-campus students, similar to the Writing Center. This would function separately from the Information Technology Help Desk.

   D. The OIT/CSTL should create a web-based technology basic skills assessment process for all first time students. Results will be used to identify technologically at-risk students. Evaluation of the results of this assessment should be used to recommend its termination or continuance every two years.

3. The University should consider the following recommendations regarding Technology and its impact on faculty and pedagogy for the year 2020

   A. OIT/CSTL should expand the role of the Instructional Design Specialist to help faculty across campus incorporate teaching technologies into the classroom in ways that reflect department and industry standards for their content area. This incorporation should be encouraged at every appropriate educational opportunity.

   B. ITC should assess that faculty are provided with adequate hardware and software to support faculty's desire to integrate technology in their teaching.

   C. OIT/CSTL should provide all faculty the opportunity to complete a workshop on pedagogical issues connected with teaching with technology, including continuing education every 3 to 5 years in order to help integrate technology into their particular content and style of teaching.

   D. OIT/CSTL should provide training opportunities to all faculty so they can fully embrace and utilize the new Learning Management System (LMS).

   E. The Provost should require faculty responsible for teaching online courses to complete a workshop on pedagogical issues connected with teaching online before beginning the class. Follow up/continuing education workshops would be required every 3-5 years.

   F. OIT/CSTL should encourage constant review, due diligence and ongoing assessment of the LMS should be encouraged by all faculty to ensure the LMS continues to meet the learning needs of the students and the pedagogical needs of the faculty.

   G. Faculty should consider integrating interactive learning programs in the classroom where appropriate. The Provost should support the development of these engaging learning experiences by the instructors.