



December 4, 2018

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Joseph Genereux
Vice Chair, Committee on Library and Information Technology

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph Genereux".

Re: [Campus Review] Provost's Taskforce for Hybrid and Online Education Final Report

The Committee on Library and Information Technology reviewed the Provost's Taskforce for Hybrid and Online Education Final Report at their November 15, 2018 meeting and note the following concerns. The first concern was whether the resources allocated are adequate to support the ambitious expansion, without having to divert resources from ITS; the document doesn't make clear that the technology implementation expertise of the proposed new hires will be adequate for them to provide comprehensive support to the project. Certainly, there will be new needs for storage and bandwidth that should be addressed, and potential upcoming changes in the Learning Management System provider should be taken into account as well.

There are some implications with regards to library resources. The taskforce should address what type of access non-UCR students will have to journal subscriptions and library services.

Regarding the courses themselves, we suggest that before the expansion, a minimum technological shelf life should be established to which all new courses must adhere, to ensure that new online courses do not prematurely lose functionality as support for software infrastructure evolves. Also, there should be some plan in place to ensure that and evaluate whether the quality of online courses remains similar to that of our existing curricula, and the impact of online course expansion on the experience of our undergraduate and graduate population.

It is concerning that the report does not address course ownership. Faculty generally consider ownership of the intellectual resources associated with a course that they develop to reside with them.