Information Technology Committee Update to Exec Council

November 20, 2025

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Overview of the Information Technology Committee

Purpose: The committee serves as a **faculty advisory group** that **gathers technology needs** across the school, works closely with Information Technology to **organize** these needs, and **communicates** them to leadership to support institutional decision making. This ensures leadership has a clear view of pain points and areas with the greatest potential impact.

Structure: Faculty representation from **4 IT sub-committees**:

- Basic Science
- Clinical Research
- Academic Affairs
- ForHealth

A new cross-cutting sub-committee focused on artificial intelligence is being formed to address AI needs that span all schools and departments.

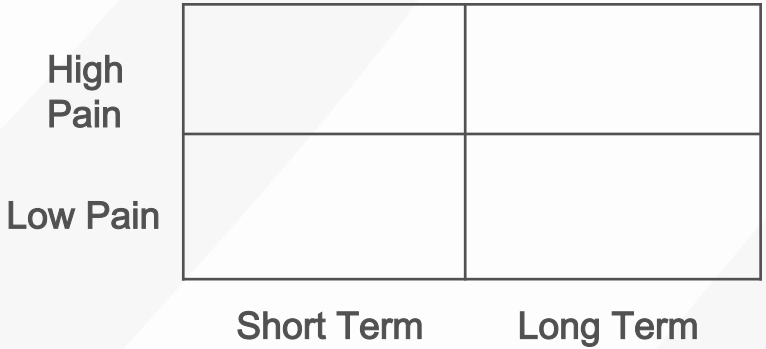
Quadrant Framework for Organizing IT Needs

Why we use it

- Helps turn faculty feedback into clear, actionable categories
- Organizes needs by pain level and time horizon
- Reveals which issues are urgent, which require planning, and which can be addressed opportunistically
- Gives leadership a structured view of where attention will have the greatest impact

How it is applied

- Used consistently across all ITC subcommittees
- Creates a unified method for comparing needs in research, education, basic science, and ForHealth
- Supports transparent prioritization and informed decision making



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Level of Effort for Subcommittee recommendations

Size	Calendar Time	People	Cost ('000)
XS	< 1 week	1	< 5
S	1 week - 1 month	1 - 3	5 - 15
M	1 - 3 months	3 - 7	15 - 50
L	3 months - 1 year	7 - 15	50 - 250
XL	> 1 year	> 15	> 250

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Basic Science 4 Quadrant

	Short Term	Long Term
High Pain	Strategic opportunities: • GPUs for AI and ML research (L) • Storage for data during research (L) • Platforms to share research data (NIH requirement) (L) Tactical opportunities • Security updates interrupt instruments (M) • Security software slows down workstations (M) • Network problems in Science Buildings • Confirm IT costs covered by F&A (?)	Strategic opportunities: • Research data storage strategy (XL*) • HPC needs growing long term (XL) • Training on use of science applications (e.g., AlphaFold) (M) • Subject matter expert support for science applications (L) Tactical opportunities: • Secure older systems running instruments (L) Software Containers for reused codes on HPC (M)
Low Pain	Strategic opportunities: • Manage paid software licenses (Schrodinger, SciFinder, Slack) Tactical opportunities • Curated research software for easy reuse (e.g., AlphaFold) (M) • Remote access to instruments(?) • Reduce Job failure on HPC cluster (S)	Tactical opportunities • Integrate Instruments with electronic lab notebooks (ELNs) (?) • Insure persistence of ELN data (?) • Improve usability of ELNs (?)

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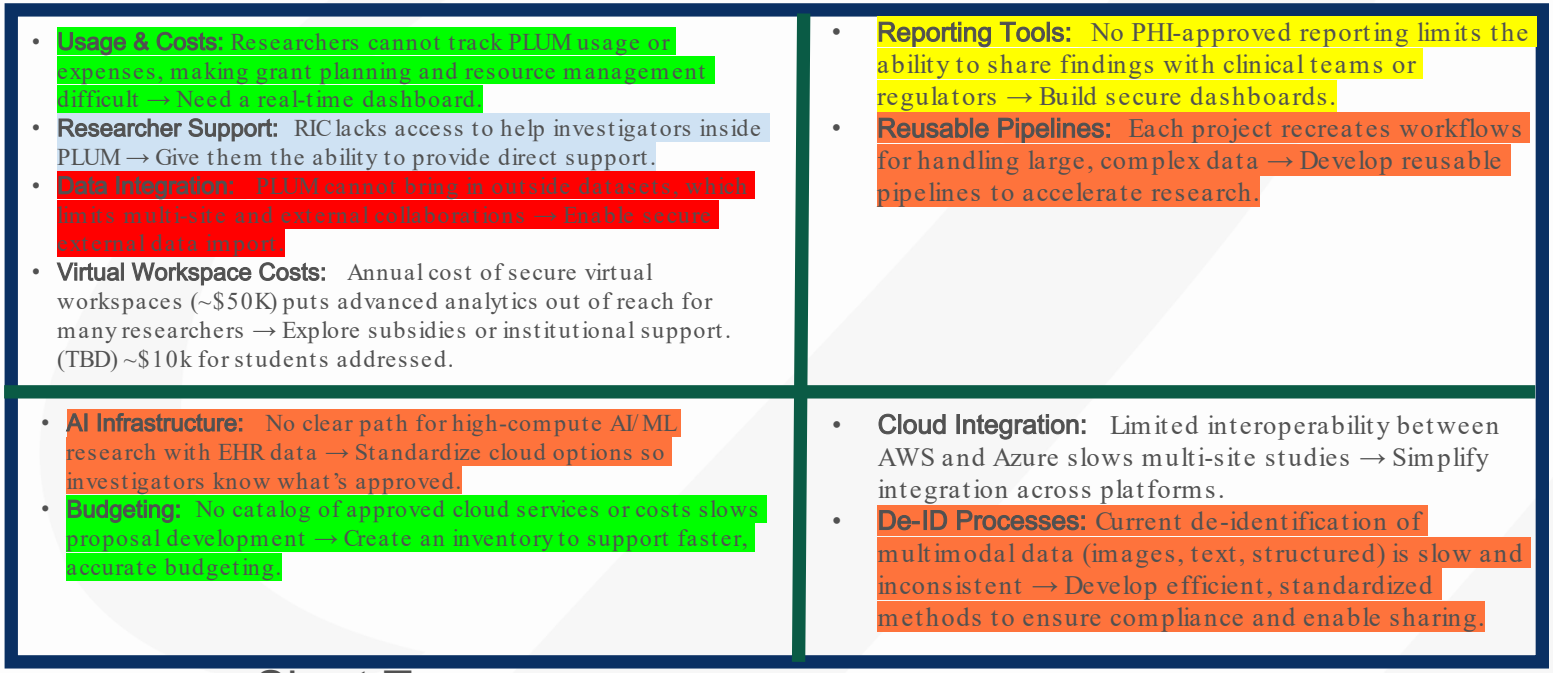
Faculty seek cost effective software strategies and AI enabled support tools that reduce administrative burden and strengthen research operations.

Clinical Research 4 Quadrant



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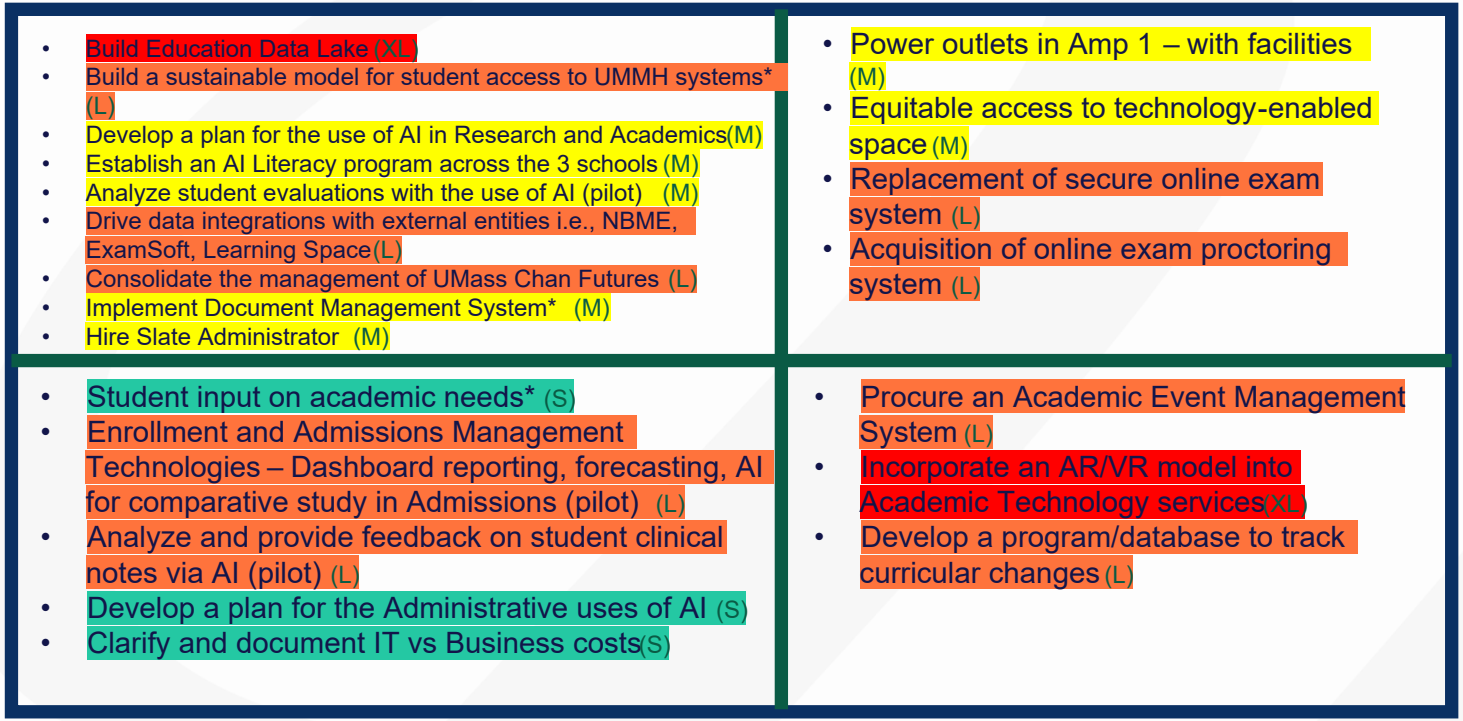
Researchers need better visibility, support, and flexibility in PLUM to enable efficient data work, secure collaboration, and sustainable analytics.

Academic 4 Quadrant Chart



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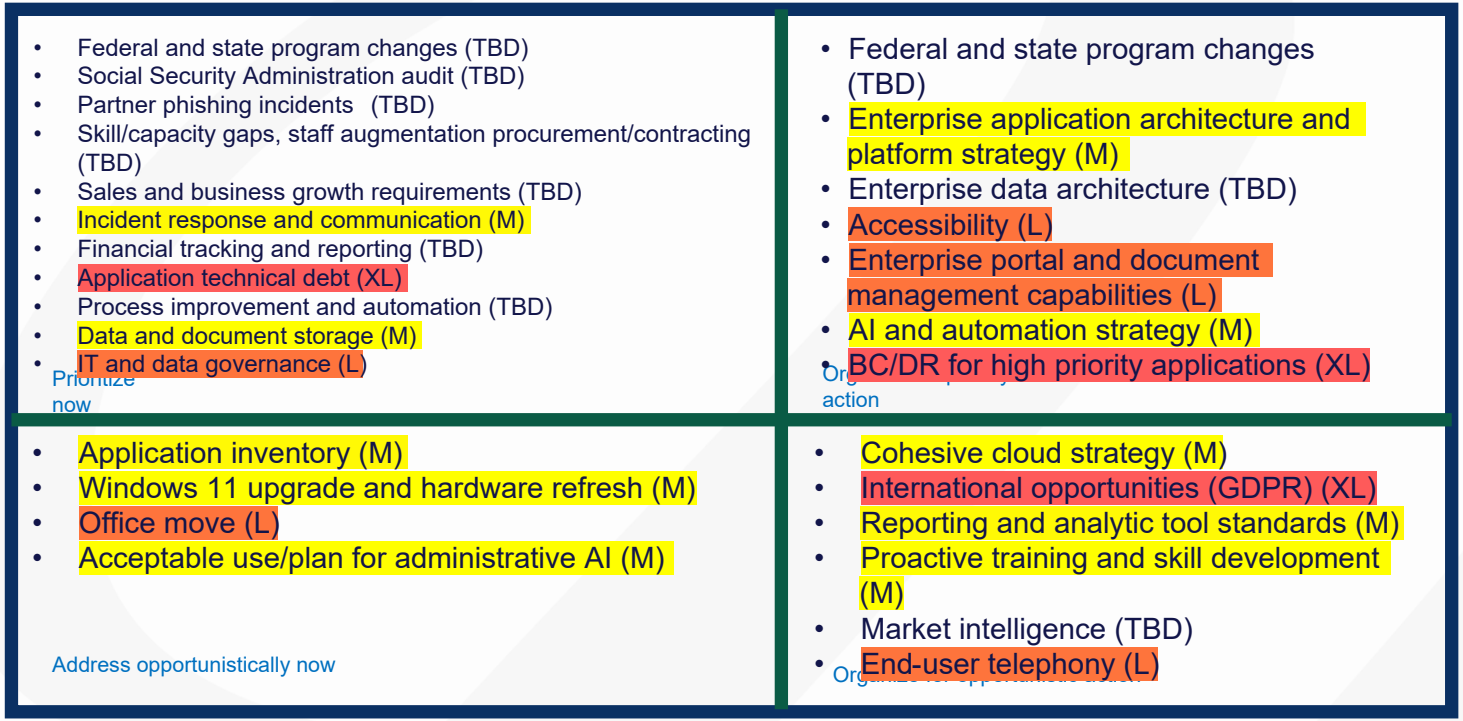
The education community needs modernized data systems, AI informed teaching tools, and improved student access to technology that supports learning.

FolHealth 4 Quadrant



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The group highlights a mix of regulatory, operational, and data governance needs that require coordinated planning and clearer enterprise strategies.

IT Priorities

Strategic Prioritization & Planning

- Urgent, high-impact IT projects **“high pain - short-term”** targeted for FY26, not just “quick wins”
- Multiple tactical IT initiatives are already underway

Compliance & Security

- Preparing a business case for **GDPR** compliance (costs/research needs)
- Remote access and legacy equipment security addressed with network quarantine zones

Infrastructure & Investment

- Budgets allocated and procurement underway for GPUs and research data storage

Data Integration & Researcher Support

- Focus on improving integration/governance of research data across platforms
- **Ongoing enhancements**: Plum dashboards, research workspaces, AlphaFold training
- **Action**: Follow-up meeting to address data integration and sharing challenges

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Next Steps

Continue with funded FY26 priorities and priorities that can be addressed without additional funding

Alignment with Budget Calendar for FY27

- Need completion by December 2025
- Dean validation in January
- Meetings with Budget team in February
- Executive review in March

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