

**SWAT-II:
CSU System-wide
Academic Technology
Initiative**

CATS - March 26, 2004

Overview

1. What does SWAT-II mean to me and how is it different than SWAT-I? (Lessons Learned)
2. What is SWAT-II doing now?
3. What assistance is requested of CATS?

What does SWAT-II mean to me?

In concise terms, a formally recognized and effective communication channel for academic technology staff.

- Academic technology staff inputs are essential to the success of CSU system-level initiatives:
 - “Hands on” technical expertise
 - Extensive interaction with faculty and students
 - Instructional design and LMS expertise
 - Creative and pragmatic cost-saving ideas
 - Operational and fiscal responsibility (front-line)
 - Strategic inputs and guidance

How is SWAT-II different than SWAT-I?

In 2001, the CSU Office of the Chancellor initiated the System-Wide Academic Technology (SWAT) Services project.

SWAT-I focused on “best pricing” for Blackboard, WebCT, Turnitin and Macromedia.

Lessons learned:

CSU communication channels are not well defined or do not exist for academic technology stakeholders (faculty, staff and students). This results in marked inefficiencies.

Where are we now? (SWAT-II)

In December 2003, the CSU Office of the Chancellor initiated discussions to reconvene the System-Wide Academic Technology (SWAT) Services project.

In March 2004, SWAT-II was formally sanctioned and funded for a six-month pilot, with a core focus of establishing campus and system-level "academic technology" communication channels.

SWAT-II will actively engage: CATS-technical support staff, faculty, academic technology directors, CIO's, senior management, libraries, CSU-level advisory and computing resource committees.

What Will SWAT-II do? (Phase I)

This system-wide initiative will identify toolsets, processes, criteria and compliance driven measures in support of academic technologies and deployment services.

The core focus of Phase I (Mar-Sep '04) is on this framework and sustainability – not “order taking” to negotiate the best price on technologies.

SWAT-II has the full backing of CSU Office of Chancellor and system-level committees. Active participation of staff and campus is essential.

What Will SWAT-II do ? (Phase II)

Phase II (Oct '04 and beyond) will apply the framework to system-wide acquisition of technologies.

Selected "pilots" will be undertaken to test the framework with practical priority projects and acquisitions that emphasize academic technologies.

Candidates include: **Learning Management Systems**, ADA-assistive technologies, assessment and remediation tools, contract consolidation, training and support services.

Outcomes and Deliverables (SWAT-II)

A summary report of accomplishments will be presented to system-wide committees in Fall '04.

Recommendations will include:

- Governance and stakeholder model
- Communication channels
- Compliance-driven measures and solutions (e.g. ADA and assistive technologies)
- Campus and system resources
- Collaborative opportunities and partnerships
- Procurement opportunities and priorities
- Professional development and training

Outcomes and Deliverables (SWAT-II)

In operational and tactical terms:

- Identify how requirements are built, how key deal points and funding means are determined and how fulfillment and contract management are to occur
- Define a consistent and accurate method for calculating demand and related sizing data for procurement and contract negotiations (e.g. FTE, IPEDs)
- Define actionable “low-hanging fruit” (e.g. contract consolidation of academic software titles)
- Formalized CATS working relationship with other CSU teams/initiatives to strengthen communication processes (e.g. DAT, CSU-LMS Advisory Groups)

What Assistance is Requested of CATS?

1. What advice and inputs do you have to build communication channels to facilitate active feedback?
2. Did we miss anything?
3. Where should SWAT-II efforts be focused first?
4. Identify low-hanging fruit
5. Volunteers or nominations for SWAT-II Team members are needed

CATS Feedback is Vital

1. Engage your peers, coordinators, directors of academic technology, campus computing committees and CIO
2. Provide inputs via CATS 2004 feedback cards and CATS Web site, listserv (will be presented to ITAC in April '04)
3. Coming April '04: SWAT-II Web site <http://swat.calstate.edu>

Contact Information

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References

Four of the eight Academic Technology Initiatives (ATI) identified in the 2003 ATPC report are initial priorities by the Executive Council. They are: Student Success, Foundational Skills, e-Learning Framework, and Digital Marketplace.

The System-wide Acquisition of Technology (SWAT) efforts are aligned with CSU system processes, priority projects and tracks: *Delivering on Promises* (ongoing projects) and *Building Academic Technology Communities For Action* (new projects).

[Reference]

http://its.calstate.edu/academic_technology/atpc.shtml

http://its.calstate.edu/systemwide_it_resources/IT_resources.shtml

CATS + LMS/SWAT II: A Win-Win Opportunity

Join us at the CATS Special Session at 10:30 to delve deeper and participate in the role CATS will play in successful SWAT-II outcomes. Sample topics include:

- Why is it a “good thing”?
- How does it impact the budget?
- Why do we need it?
- Why should you participate?
- How long will it take to launch?
- What is the benefit to me and my campus?
- What is expected of me and my campus?
- What is the cost to my campus?
- What are the “measures of success”?
- Who is going to run it?
- Do I have to participate? Is it optional?
- How do I get involved?