Technology Architecture Committee (TAC)

Overview

Comprised of technology leaders from across campus, the Technology Architecture Committee meets every two weeks to consider technology architectural standards and opportunities. The committee will apply an institutional perspective to application, data and infrastructure architecture domains.

The committee consists of individuals who regularly commit a significant part of their professional time engaged in architecture activities along traditional lines of architecture:

- Enterprise Architecture
- Technology Architecture
- Application Architecture

Objectives & Priorities

The TAC is led by the Chief Technology Officer and provides oversight and advice to institutional architecture strategy, execution, and alignment.

The objectives of the TAC are to

- Support importance of enterprise perspective in technology decision-making
- Define technology architecture standards and best practices
- Define standard approaches for introducing new technology architecture initiatives
- Encourage alignment and adoptions of standards and best practices
- Participate in project prioritization and governance process as an advisory committee
- Support risk management objectives

The activities of the TAC will be prioritized based on the agreed upon areas of urgency where an architectural point of view and eventual reference standard will provide the most value to Yale. Topics and

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standards will be shared and will be open to comment and observation. As new technology is considered, an architectural review will take place and the project’s technology will be categorized as one of:

- Should be aligned with standards and is
- Should be aligned with standards and is not
- Does not need to be aligned with standards

Responsibilities, Governance & Artifacts

Reference Architecture Documents

These will be produced and prioritized based upon a combination of urgency and importance. They will be living documents with an author selected from the TAC identified as the primary author or editor. No living reference standard shall exist that doesn’t have an author or editor. The author or editor will be responsible for initiating all revisions and periodic reviews of he documents.

Project Alignment Reviews

Whenever the TAC reviews a project’s technology, a formal written summary will be produced describing the alignment with prevailing standards. One of the three categories above (Enterprise, Technology and Application Architecture) will be assigned and a discussion (if applicable) of steps to bring the technology into alignment will be attached. Similarly, reference standards will be modified as needed to account for the new technology.

It is not critical that a formal reference architecture document covering the domain be prepared in advance for such a ruling. But for an area frequently touched upon by projects, it would be necessary for a reference architecture to be prepared to serve as future guidance and to ensure consistency in TAC activities.

By Third Quarter of FY2014:

Once broad consensus around a core Reference Architecture is reached, it is expected that the TAC will engage earlier in the governance process.

Loriann Seluga, Associate Director, Student Technology Collaborative
Jon Sobel, Director, Systems and Data Integration
Alan Usas, Director of IT & CIO, School of Management
Brian Wolson, Associate CIO, Shared Solutions
Director of Research Technologies
(open position)
ITS Staff

Meeting Frequency
Bi-weekly

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and closer to when proposals are presented to the TIC. This will help ensure business processes are properly aligned with architectural and technological standards.