

## PROCESS

While LSU has emphasized the importance of strategic planning for all of its units, and has regularly developed and monitored institution-wide plans, previously developed strategic plans for information technology were limited in scope to the Office of Computing Services as an organization.

Brian Voss, hired in the spring of 2005 to be the institution's first chief information officer, called for the development of an institution-wide strategic plan for information technology. In August of 2005, Voss created and filled a position, executive coordinator for IT planning, dedicated to leading the strategic planning process.

Based in part upon his experiences with the IT strategic planning process at his former university, Voss determined that there should be five taskforces: Information Systems Enablement, Research Enablement, Student IT Experience, Teaching and Learning Enablement, and Infrastructure. Voss spent several months (April through October) speaking to various constituencies, building support for the planning process. The Faculty Senate and Student Government sought volunteers for the various taskforces and additional individuals were asked by the CIO to serve. The taskforces ranged in size from 12 to 25 people. Chairs for each taskforce were appointed.

The five taskforces each met for four, two hour sessions beginning in early November and ending in early December. The five task forces touched upon not only their specific areas, but on broader concerns such as security, support, and communications.