Policy Change: Two parts:

a) We will now allow departments to update their technology equipment replacement (those lost to theft or to wear/tear or as non-state funded opportunities arise) needs throughout the year (not just at APR time); and

b) Include the knowledge of Media Services and Information Services personnel to fill in gaps of technology equipment replacement needs.

Rationale:

Right now the only data that are used in determining computer+media technology needs are what are in the Annual Program Review form. Unfortunately, the APR information (discussed internally by the departments in September and submitted in mid-October) can be obsolete as instructional needs or funding sources (e.g., new grant opportunities) change during the school year. (Usually, computer+media technology purchases occur in the April/May timeframe.) Also, individual departments often do not know what classroom technology is in need of replacement sooner than other classrooms. Because of this, ISIT would like to add some flexibility to the data input and include the advice of Media Services and Information Services in the information used to determine what computer+media technology is purchased. Prioritization of technology purchases will remain with the ISIT Committee to maintain our current participatory governance oversight + consent process. Requests for new technology would be made through the APR along with what departments know about their technology replacement needs but ISIT would also like to know of changes in replacement needs throughout the academic year and have the flexibility to re-prioritize as needs change.

Possible Objections or Questions:

1) Isn’t this an end-run around the APR process? Response: The APR will continue to be used for both technology replacement and identifying new technology needs. However, the APR is essentially a snapshot of a department’s needs known at the middle of the Fall semester but computer purchases are done near or at the end of the Spring semester.

2) Won’t this give too much power to MS/IS in determining what technology goes into the classroom? Response: Prioritization of technology purchases will remain with our participatory governance committee, ISIT Committee. Also, individual departments often do not know what classroom technology is in need of replacement sooner than other classrooms. MS/IS can help fill in the gaps in our knowledge of what classroom technology needs to be replaced sooner than other classrooms.

3) What happens now when classroom technology is stolen or broken? If spare equipment is available or IF funding exists to replace the stolen or broken equipment, then the replacement equipment is installed immediately without having to go through ISIT approval. KCCD is self-insured, so funding for stolen or broken equipment has to come out of our reserves.

4) How is this proposed process different from what happens now? Although stolen or broken equipment is replaced ASAP as funding allows, this proposed policy change allows departments to request changes in already technology-equipped classrooms at other times in addition to the APR. This proposed policy also allows us to use the expertise of Information Services and Media Services in identifying classroom technology needs. Under current policy, if the academic departments do not identify in the APR needs for the technology-equipped classrooms in which their faculty teach, then those technology-equipped classrooms will not be upgraded. New technology needs—introducing new technology tools to any classroom—will still be done solely through the APR.