Summary of Data Warehouse presentation to the AITC
January 20, 2009

a. History of the UC Merced Data Warehouse initiative

b. What is a DW and why is it important?
    i. Central repository for integrating university data from administrative systems
    ii. Takes reporting load off the transaction/operational systems; snapshots reflect business needs; read-only data
    iii. Gives greater data access to decision-makers
    iv. Data are organized by subject, aligned with business areas; driven by analytic requirements
    v. Data structure leads to greater efficiencies in reporting
    vi. Captures historical data; facilitates trend analyses
    vii. Fosters a culture of evidence, transparency and data-driven decision-making
    viii. Leads to better quality data and consistency in definitions: one version of the truth!
    ix. Success of DW can be measured by ability to make better decisions

c. Project overview
    i. Purchased and installed Business Intelligence software: Cognos
    ii. Set up daily refresh of Banner Student Information System data into DW (ODS)
    iii. Trained technical staff
    iv. Set up security in database and in software
    v. Drafted Data Warehouse philosophy and governance document
    vi. Drafted Data Warehouse data access plan
    vii. Developing first data mart (cube) to demo to campus users (prototype)

d. Critical issues
    i. Need formal support from Cabinet
    ii. Need to establish feeds from PPS/QDB, Budget, other administrative data into DW
    iii. No FT staff assigned to the initiative yet; Requested hiring exception for FT Data Warehouse Engineer
    iv. Need to establish Steering/Governance Committee to establish priorities for data mart development and to develop policies, processes, etc. This requires substantial help from functional experts in the affected areas

e. Conjecture as to whether the AITC could play a dual role as the Data Warehouse governance body.