

FAC Workgroup on Shared Services and Efficiencies update
January 4, 2017

FY 2017 recommended funding:

1. Pursue expansion of VCCS Shared Services Center to one or more institutions that have expressed interest (4 have done so). Cost = \$30,000. The Virginia Community College System has established a Shared Services Center in Daleville, Virginia, to deliver transaction-based services in finance and human resources, and the technology to support those services. The Center provides services to and is governed by all the colleges and System Office. The goal is to provide services better, faster, and cheaper than a college could achieve individually. A Shared Services Feasibility Study would need to be conducted with interested institutions to determine if receiving some services from the Center would be beneficial for them.

A Shared Services Feasibility Study is designed to provide the leadership of an institution adequate data to properly assess the impact, and ability to adopt and implement, a shared services model. The focus of the study will be to examine how to improve the efficiency of the college by considering how to streamline or consolidate operational processes and functions to make them more cost effective—that is to examine “how” the college operates. The result of the study will determine if the college can implement existing activities more cost-effectively in a shared services model. The review will include fiscal, technology, human resources, and procurement processes within the college to determine recommended course of action, expected savings, and implementation timeframe of a shared services model. The feasibility study can be completed within 30 days from the receipt of requested data.

2. Move the Zephiera Library pilot forward. Cost = \$15,000. The pilot would look at converting library catalog records into Linked Data records, enabling them to be sought and found on the Internet through common search engines. This is a good first step in exploring the possibilities for metadata conversion and increased discoverability. If the pilot with Zepheira is successful, a large-scale transformation of library records could be the next step. Their pricing model is based on a combination of the number of participating institutions and the number of records transformed. We expect that \$150,000, in combination with making use of the metadata experts at our member institutions, would go a long way in achieving a significant project for Virginia.

VIVA's current budget is committed to the cooperative acquisition of shared collections. The proposed initiative is for the access and storage of shared collections as well as individual member institution collections, so it is related, but this initiative is an extension of what VIVA currently focuses on. As VIVA has central staffing and a funding mechanism, it is often viewed as the "action arm" of the LAC and a place where library initiatives in Virginia can be implemented on a broad scale.

FY 2018 recommended funding, based on the funding available (barring additional funding), will be for a 2017 Conference to showcase institutional efficiencies. The Conference Planning & Development group includes the following individuals who are willing to develop the programming:

VCCS	Donna Van Cleave
UMW	Rick Pearce
CWM	Sam Jones
ODU	Dave Harnage
UVa	Colette Sheehy
VCU	Karol Gray

Additional projects under development – would require additional funding from the General Assembly and financial and personnel participation from institutions over several years: Master Data Management for procurement and exploration of the formation of a "Virginia Higher Education Collaborative IT Security Operations Center.