

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Office of Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



September 9, 2008

Instructional Space Implementation Team:

Robert Graves, *Chair*

Leslie Hammersmith

Paula Kaufman

Sandy Goss Lucas

Carol Malmgren

Keith Marshall

Joseph Squier

Jennifer Themanson

Matthew Tomaszewski

Ruth Watkins

Dear Colleagues,

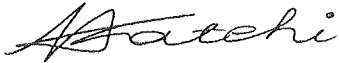
I write to thank you for your service on last year's Instructional Space Implementation Team. The development of a clear set of policies and procedures for assigning classroom space is vital to our campus, particularly in light of the Lincoln Hall renovation, and your final report documents the significant progress made towards this goal. In the interest of continuity, and because this group was so clearly productive, I am also asking that you consider extending your work on ISIT through the 2008-09 academic year. This would allow us to utilize the knowledge base gained, and to sustain the positive energy, created last year. Dean Robert Graves has graciously agreed to continue as your Chair.

For the 2008-09 academic year, I would like the team to follow through on work begun last year by (1) evaluating the results of the classroom space audit conducted over the summer, (2) communicating with stakeholders through the town hall meetings initiated during the summer, and (3) continuing the process of incremental policy reform outlined in last year's final report. In particular, I would like the team to make recommendations on a second phase of policy reform that can be implemented for the Fall 2009 semester, which will need to be planned by the end of the Fall 2008 semester, and discussed with the campus at that time.

In addition, I ask that the team begin a conversation focused around the final paragraph in last year's report: changes in educational practices as they relate to learning spaces of the twenty-first century. I am particularly interested in the interplay between physical and virtual learning spaces, how new technologies are impacting teaching practice, and how current ideas about learning spaces should be impacting our thinking about space utilization. I ask that your final report include a section that details your sense of the opportunities and challenges in this area. Please plan to submit your report by April 30, 2009.

Thank you again for your excellent service to date. I will assume that you are able to continue to serve unless I hear otherwise. I look forward to your recommendations for improving of use of space across the campus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Katehi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a distinct "K".

Linda Katehi
Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs