

The *new* Strategic Technologies Group

JISC wishes to establish the Strategic Technologies Group (STG) as part of the **Flexible Service Delivery** (FSD) programme

What is it intended to be?

A group of representatives from individual educational institutions, and across institutional consortia, who wish to explore, share and invest in technical solutions, such as SOA, that support improved and flexible ways of planning and providing administrative and academic services.

What are the strategic drivers in higher education?

- Efficiency gains and increased revenues, especially since a further £9billion of savings have been announced in the budget
- Flexible architectures and processes that will prolong the life of systems and support organisational change, as well as ease migration and integration of new systems
- Desire to reduce the overheads of duplication of in-house/consultant-supported integration efforts
- Cost savings through economies of scale associated with system sharing
- Enterprise wide level view of systems, data and processes and of the underlying integration issues; and development of an architected, enterprise-wide IT Infrastructure
- Improved IT strategy, planning and governance

These strategic drivers are resonant in the UCISA's Top Ten Concerns Survey 2008-2009

http://www.ucisa.ac.uk/members/surveys/tc/tc2008-9/top_ten.aspx

What are the benefits of joining?

- A community in which to collaborate; to share experiences, knowledge, lessons learnt, common issues and challenges, and good practice solutions with others
- A framework in which to form cross-institutional partnerships
- Managed engagement and partnering with suppliers of administrative and academic systems to maximise the market potential for their systems and services
- Improved understanding of your administrative and academic areas of concern and requirements for supporting ICT systems, and of the impact, cost and risk of changing technical systems, supporting better use of current systems and more informed purchasing decisions for new ones
- Access to support, guidance and training
- JISC funding

How do I get involved?

Becoming part of the group is very straightforward: simply complete and submit a **four-page expression of interest form** via the **Grant 06/09 Funding Call** by **12 noon on 14 May 2009**. http://www.jisc.ac.uk/fundingopportunities/funding_calls/2009/04/0609flexibleservicedeliveryprogramme.aspx

The STG is to comprise three types of membership – associate, strategic and solution members – depending on institutional maturity and technical readiness.

How do I find out more?

For information about the JISC funding available, the STG membership structure and the types of activities you will get support in, see overleaf. For supporting information relevant to the FSD programme, please contact Alex Hawker (a.hawker@jisc.ac.uk), or visit the programme webpage:

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/flexibleservicedelivery.aspx>

	Associate Member	Strategic Member	Solution Member
JISC Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o £5,000 per institution o £15,000 per consortia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o £20,000 per institution o £60,000 per consortia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o £30,000 per institution o £90,000 per consortia
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Agreement on institutions and consortia priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Process modelling of current and future processes o Process costing o Forming cross-institutional models of governance and partnership arrangements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Exploring and reviewing technology options for integration o Engaging and partnering with suppliers o Technical development
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A report detailing agreed institutional/consortia concerns, strategies and priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Model artifacts (domain and process models) o Baseline costs o Partnership agreement(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Open service interface standards and specification documents o Other technical elements o Implementations of software interfaces
Support provided from:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Synthesis, Coordination and Community Support Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Synthesis, Coordination and Community Support Project o Community Engagement Team (CET) for the e-Framework o Enterprise Architecture (EA) Practice Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Synthesis, Coordination and Community Support Project o CET for the e-Framework o EA Practice Group o JISC Innovation Support Centres (ISCs)
Membership profile	<p>Senior management, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Pro-vice chancellors o Finance directors o ICT service directors o Registrars 	<p>Senior management, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Process owner/business analyst o ICT managers o System end-users 	<p>Senior management, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Process owner/business analyst o ICT managers o System developers / integrators / implementers o System end-users
Enabler(s) of change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Understanding institutions and consortia priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Understanding institutions and consortia needs o Understanding baseline service costs o Forming cross-institutional models of governance and partnership arrangements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Technical Review and Exploration o Supplier engagement and partnering o Technical co-development o Piloting