<u>**USI BUDGET PLANNING – ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**</u>
<u>**BUDGET HEARING**</u>
Budget Request Form
Fiscal Year 2011-2012

COB Priority # 3b
Vice President Priority

Date: **February 4, 2011**

Department: **Management & Information Sciences**

Project Title: *GroupSystems* Collaboration and Negotiations software

Describe the project: *GroupSystems* software facilitates meetings by providing anonymity to group decision tasks such as ranking, voting, prioritizing of objectives, brainstorming, negotiation, and other features.

Describe how this initiative relates to the University's Strategic Plan.
GroupSystems can facilitate effective faculty, administrative, and organizational meetings, and students can be trained to use this state-of-the-art technology. The implementation of this technology will add to the experiential learning opportunities of students and position the university as a negotiation and decision support resource. This will assist the goal of providing leadership to the region.

Describe the objectives to be achieved and how the requested funding will contribute to the achievement of these objectives.
The objectives to be achieved are greater utilization of decision support tools in organizational and community decision making. Development of specialized knowledge and skill development of students related to informed decision making.

GroupSystems is used by many companies in the nation for brainstorming and creative group decision making. The new Business and Engineering Center has labs that are specifically designed for this purpose. Being able to purchase *GroupSystem*s software will facilitate the use of the state-of-the-art facilitates in the building to enhance meetings held by faculty, administration and local companies, and will give students the opportunity for hands-on experiences with the software.

Does this request have a direct effect on enrollment? Is this request a result of changes in enrollment? If so, please explain.
Yes, it would have a positive impact on enrollment, by providing students with highly competitive skills and knowledge that are used in many businesses and industries.

Describe the expected results of this project.
More students will be attracted to business programs and graduates will have a competitive edge because of their skill and knowledge of the use of *GroupSystems* technology. Increased community utilization of the specialized facilitates in the Business and Engineering Center. Enhanced reputation of the programs offered by the university.

Is this request for permanent funding or is it for temporary, one-year funding?
This is a yearly-renewable funding request.

Is this request for funding other than general operating funding? If so, please identify the sources.
No.