

## Observations.

The two tiered structure of the iSchools into the iCaucus and the iConsortium is a structure that cannot be sustained going forward: 1) the iCaucus has become too large, meets too infrequently, and is too unwieldy to carry on the business of a growing association; 2) the iConsortium (the "regular" iSchools) is too diverse to represent its members adequately in the iCaucus. It seems increasingly clear that the Executive Committee is the elected group that needs to run iSchools. In effect, iCaucus recognized this at its last Business Meeting when it passed a motion to define more clearly the roles of the Executive Committee and the iCaucus. This document is intended in part to address this issue.

A related issue is how to add new institutions to appropriate categories. We have as many as 15 applications this year, not all of which are ripe for regular membership, but which want a relationship with us. We already have one mechanism for adding members to the iCaucus (via election). Opening a path into the regular iSchools group also makes sense if we want to grow.

## CHANGE

The goal of this proposal is to increase the number of membership tiers so that the within-tier variations are less and that mentorship opportunities are easier to establish. The current differentiation between tiers is \$5000 for the iCaucus and \$500 for the iConsortium.

### Tier 1 members.

This is the permanent membership tier of the iCaucus. Many of these institutions were among the founders of the iSchools, others were added on the basis of their similarity to the early group, and all were willing to support the enterprise on the \$5000 per annum rate. They all had well-established PhD programs and large amounts of external research money.

### Tier 2 (mid-level) members.

This level would be based on reasonable degrees of similarity to Tier 1, particularly multiple programs with a broad reach beyond their original core, with known doctoral programs, and with significant research income. These institutions should be able to support the iSchools with dues of \$1000 per annum and should elect 1 representative to the iCaucus for every five institutions in Tier 2. Tier 2 institutions should have a reasonable expectation of being able to join Tier 1. Many of the current iConsortium schools may wish to join this tier.

### Tier 3. (basic level) members.

These are institutions who are schools who have at least a three-year old doctoral program, substantial external research funding, and a positive reputation. This has been the iConsortium level. The proposed dues are \$500. Tier 3 institutions will be able to elect one representative to the iCaucus for every ten members.

## Associates

This category is for schools that are new, or may not meet the requirements for other tiers. Associate members would pay \$300 per year and have no official representation in the iCaucus, but will be included in mailing lists and may participate actively in regional meetings.

## Corporate relationships.

Corporate members presumably wish to join the iSchools to recognize the value of member programs and the influence of the iSchools in society at large. Three levels of corporate membership are recognized:

- Corporate Affiliate - \$2500 per year; receive iSchools informational updates, listing on the website as a corporate affiliate, and one complementary registration to the iConference.

- Corporate Associate - \$5000 per year; receive iSchools informational updates, listing on the website as a corporate associate, invitations to internship and collaboration opportunities, and two complementary registrations to the iConference.
- Corporate Sponsor - \$10,000 per year; receive iSchools informational updates, listing on the website as a corporate sponsor, invitations to internships, collaboration opportunities, and visiting professors of practice; two complementary registrations to the iConference and one seat at the iCaucus.