MEMO TO: Information Technology Steering Committee

FROM: Portal Task Force

DATE: June 13, 2006

SUBJECT: Portal Recommendation

The Portal Task Force has chosen Academus 2.0 from Unicon, Inc. as the portal product for Nazareth College at a cost of $89,900 for the 2006-2007 fiscal year and $47,950 annually thereafter.

The sixteen-member Portal Task Force (PTF) of faculty, staff, and administration conducted a four-month research, interview, and demonstration process of evaluating eight portal solutions. This resulted in two finalists, Time Cruiser and Academus, being brought to campus in April, 2006. Faculty and staff attended demonstrations, interacted with the vendors, and offered valuable input to this decision. The PTF compared the two products side-by-side on specific issues that were identified as critical to Nazareth College; a hosted e-mail solution, integration with Nazareth's existing Datatel systems, single-sign-on capability with e-mail NazNet, and Blackboard, a central repository for file storage, customization and scalability, vendor support of the product, client references, and cost.

All of these criteria have been satisfied with the exception of single-sign-on to Blackboard. Blackboard, Inc. requires that customers upgrade to the newest version of Blackboard, version 7, in order to accomplish single-sign-on between Blackboard and any portal system. The associated fees (an additional $38,800 annually) commanded by Blackboard, Inc. are the prohibitive factor to achieving single-sign-on with Blackboard at this time.

The Academus fee structure is as follows:

First Year Only Costs	
One-time setup and integration fees	19,450
Administrator training fees	4,750
E-mail conversion and administration	17,750
Year 1 Only	41,950
Annual Costs (Payable in Year 1)	
Software Licensing Fee	14,450
Portal Hosting Fee	33,500
* Annual	47,950
Total First Year Costs	89,900

* $47,950 is subject to annual increases not to exceed 5%.

The work of the PTF will come to a close with an impending final proposal to the ITSC recommending the structure, membership, and strategy of a Portal Planning Committee to oversee the planning and implementation of the Portal Project.