



Benchmarks *Online*

Volume 4 - Number 5 * May 2001

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Dr. Norval Pohl was named UNT's 13th President on October 15, 2000 and at 3 p.m. on May 4, 2001 he was inaugurated -- live, and on the Internet. That's right, as the inauguration was taking place in the Coliseum, streaming audio and video was being sent out over the Internet. Read all about it ...

[Summer Computing Hours](#)

The hours for Computing Center-managed facilities during May Mini-mester and the summer are included in this article as well as links to Websites associated with those facilities.

[Do you have something to sell?](#)

GroupWise E-mail spam continues to be a problem. Several times last month messages were sent out reminding GroupWise users that violations of the guidelines listed in this article will be handled by the Vice Presidents and/or Deans of the respective departments.

[Lab-of-the-Month](#)

Which lab do you think is featured this month?

[Renew PRAS Accounts for Summer](#)

If you purchased a Premium Remote Access Service subscription for the spring semester -- or

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had paid through the spring -- and you want to keep it, you will need to renew it. You may also need to take action to ensure the continuation of your UNT Internet Account, under certain circumstances. Details for renewal of both these services can be found in this article.

TODAY'S CARTOON

Click on the title above for an information age laugh.

Don't forget to check out our monthly columns. This month's topics:

- [RSS Matters](#) -- "Hints for SPSS: Syntax and Inserting Charts/Tables into a document " The latest version of SPSS now available from Research and Statistical Support is 10.07 for Windows and 10 for Mac users. This article covers some different ways of using it.
- [SAS Corner](#) -- "HTMLizing your SAS charts and maps" Read this article to learn some really cool map and chart tricks.
- [The Network Connection](#) -- "But is it Spam?" The topic of Spam is an emotional one for many people, including GroupWise users here at UNT.
- [List of the Month](#) -- "Pollen.com" If you're like everyone else in North Texas, your allergies are acting up. This month's featured Website, Pollen.com, won't cure your problems but it may make them easier to live with.
- [WWW@UNT.EDU](#) -- "Do you know what your source code is up to?" Maybe you'd better find out . . .
- [Short Courses](#) -- Spring Academic Computing Services (ACS) short courses are over, but other learning opportunities are still available.
- [IRC News](#) -- Minutes of the Information Resources Council are printed here when they are available. The April 17, 2001 minutes are included this time.

- **Staff Activities** -- New employees, employees that have resigned, employee recognitions, presentations, and other staff changes are included in this article.

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Research and Statistical Support

University of North Texas

RSS Matters

Hints for SPSS: Syntax and Inserting Charts/Tables into a document

By [Patti Price](#), Former RSS Statistical Consultant

The latest version of SPSS now available from Research and Statistical Support is 10.07 for Windows and 10 for Mac users. You can check which version is installed on your computer by going to Help and About. There are a few new bells and whistles with the new version such as the ability to easily switch back and forth from the data view to the variable view. No longer is it necessary to click on each variable to add variable labels, etc. One word of caution for Mac users, your operating system must be 9.0 or higher.

While most users of SPSS are satisfied with the simple point and click procedures to run analyses, it is also very easy to use the syntax mode. When installing SPSS, be sure to click on "Custom Installation". This will allow one to access the syntax help file which is not available with the "Common Installation" mode. The syntax help file can be read using Adobe Acrobat and is searchable. Although the syntax manual requires additional hard drive space, it is a very useful tool. There are still some processes which one cannot run through the simple point and click but must write the syntax.

Syntax files are saved with a .sps extension. After opening the file, one can run the entire syntax or a selection of the syntax. In order to avoid having to save your file in order to execute the syntax, simply type execute. at the end of the syntax section.

It is also possible to add in comments by typing comment (type your comment here). Be sure to place a period at the end of the comment. It is not necessary to place anything in quotes.

Still scared of writing your own syntax?

SPSS also has "syntax for dummies". Simply use the point and click method, and then instead of clicking on OK after clicking on all options, click on "Paste". This will paste the syntax into a syntax file window. Type execute (be sure to place a period here) after the pasted in syntax and now the syntax is written for the user. It is possible to add in comments and save the syntax file. This allows one to rerun analyses several times without having to go back and point and click every time one wants to run the same analysis.

So why use syntax if you can just point and click. One advantage is the ability to see exactly what was done in the analysis for future reference. Second, by saving the file, the same analysis can be run very quickly without having to point and click again.

SPSS and MSWord

Another feature of SPSS is the ability to take the output generated and paste it into a MSWord document. One can insert both tables and charts generated by SPSS straight into your document. There are just a couple of items one needs to be aware of:

- To change/delete items within a table double click on the table and then double click on the item needing changes/deletions.
- After making the needed changes, click once on the table and then Edit/Copy Object or Ctrl-K.
- In MSWord select Edit/Paste Special/Formatted Text.
- Charts may also be formatted and copied in the same way.

Research and Statistical Support

University of North Texas

SAS Corner

By [Dr.Karl Ho](#), Research and Statistical Support Services Manager

HTMLizing your SAS charts and maps *

In [one of my previous articles](#), I evaluated the new SAS graphical tool, Graph-N-Go and introduced the new modes of graphics SAS can generate using this new tool. One of the appealing features of this new tool is to publish charts to Web pages. Conventionally, the easiest way to publish a chart is to convert or snapshot the chart into a graphical format such as GIF or JPEG and then insert the file to a Web page file. In SAS 8, a more innovative method is available: to embed the data into the charts and make them interactive. This article introduces this new method and provides sample codes for rendering SAS charts and maps Web-ready and interactive.

By using SAS/GRAPH Applets for Java, you can generate graphics that allow you to "drill down" and get more details of each graph element as represented by bars or slices of the pie in a bar chart and pie chart respectively.

From SAS version 8.0 onwards, the SAS/GRAPH module can create three types of charts using Java Applets: Contour, Graphs and Maps. In the new generation of SAS charts or maps, users can run PROC GCHART or PROC GMAP and publish results into an HTML file. The Java Graph and Java Map applets can generate "drill-down" charts and maps, allowing users to conduct on-line analysis on the groups or individual unit of the data set using the internet browser.

Java Graph Applet

The following example illustrates generating a drill-down bar-chart that possesses clickable bars that lead to next level of data.

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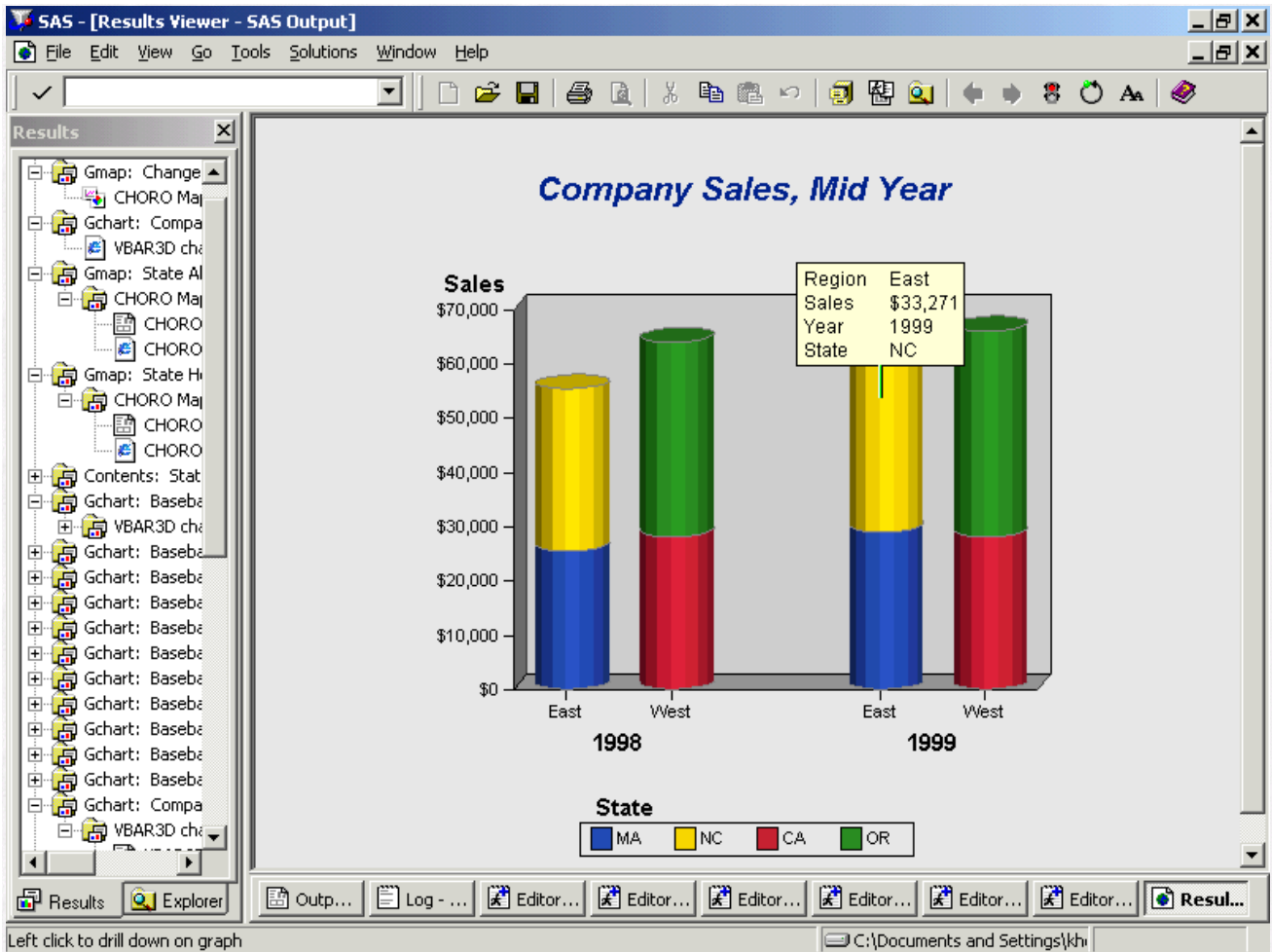
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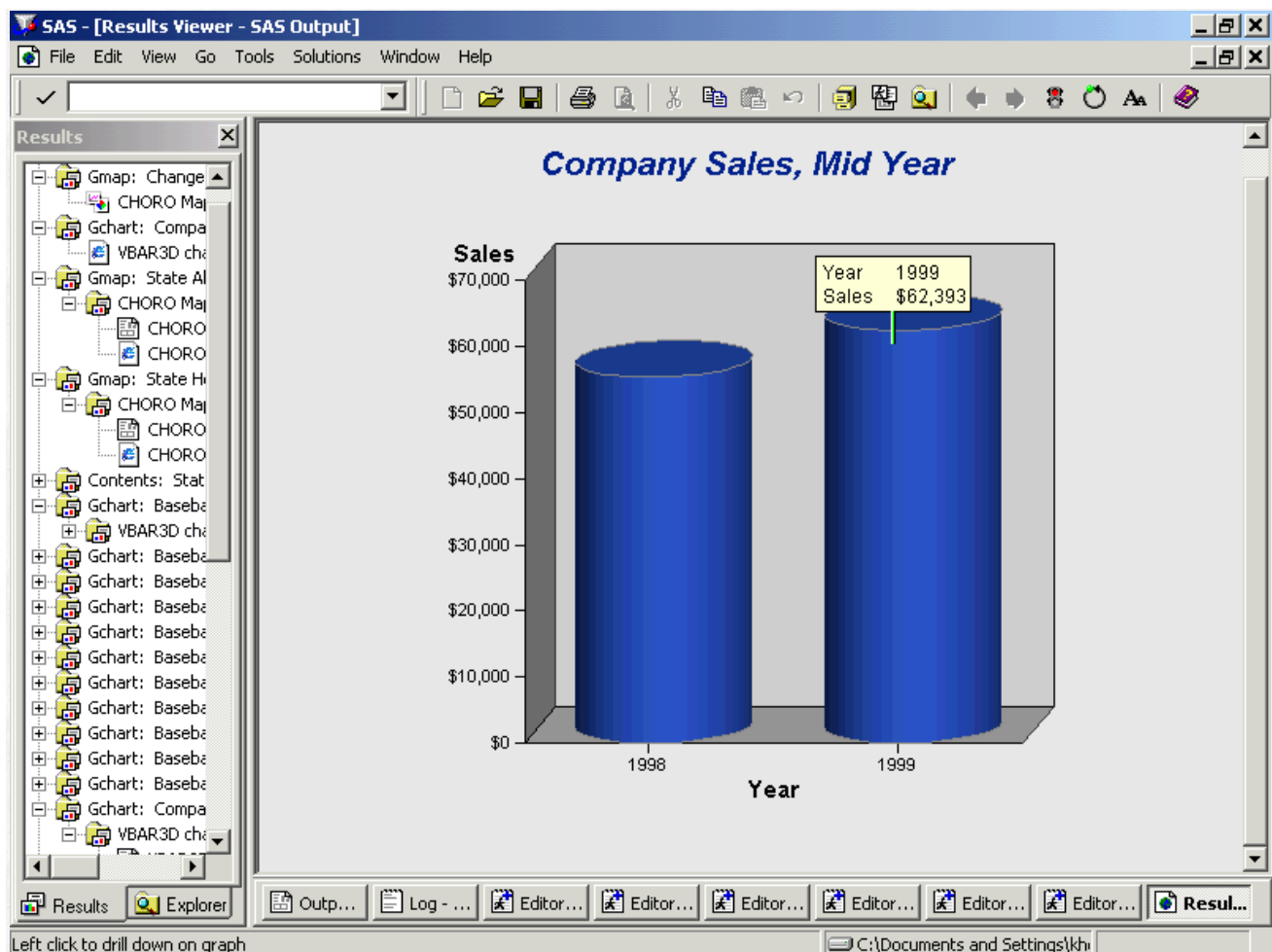
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Left click to drill down on graph

For instance, clicking on the yellow bar, the 1999 company sale from the Eastern state of North Carolina will give a "drill-down" bar graph of sales from the Eastern states in both 1998 and 1999 for annual comparison.



Pointing your cursor to each segment of the bar will indicate variable values regarding that segment of the bar. Continuing to clicking on that segment will generate another bar chart representing next level of data, illustrating comparison of the two Eastern states, NC and MA, in that year.

Before you try it out, learn to control the mouse in the Java-enabled charts. To control the Java-applet chart, right click the object and you can select from a list of commands including a link to an on-line help page. To return to the first level, you can either reload the page or hold down shift and control key simultaneously and left click on any object. Try out this on-line interactive chart:

[GraphApplet Example](#)

[Sample program of the Java-enabled Chart](#) - In this sample program, you can generate a bar chart that has pie chart at the first drill-down level.

Java Map Applet

Generating the map is similar but a different procedure PROC GMAP. The Java Map gives data of each state when you point your cursor over the state.

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Network Connection

By [Dr. Philip Baczewski](#), Associate Director of Academic Computing

This is an encore presentation of an article that originally appeared in the [November 2000](#) issue of [Benchmarks Online](#). The topic of Spam is an emotional one for many people, including [GroupWise](#) users here at UNT. -- Ed.

But is it Spam?

E-mail remains one of the more popular services on the Internet. If you have Internet access, you usually have an E-mail address or can easily get one. Some people use E-mail infrequently to correspond with their family or friends, but many people use E-mail to support their business, professional, or educational activities. Shortly after the invention of E-mail there came the bane of many of today's Internet denizens: unsolicited E-mail.

In the U.S., we get unsolicited postal mail pretty frequently. Some are annoyed by this "junk" mail, however, most deal with it by tossing it in the trash or recycle bin, possibly unopened. For some reason, junk E-mail often elicits a much less casual response from those that receive it. I've never heard of anyone threatening to sue because they received unsolicited pizza coupons in the mail, yet a single unsolicited E-mail can cause what appears to be a disproportionate response.

Spam through the Ages*

In the early, almost prehistoric Internet days -- around 10-12 years ago -- a term was coined for E-mail sent unsolicited or to an inappropriate forum. The common name is Spam, I guess because such E-mail is unwanted and possibly unpalatable. The problem was particularly apparent on mailing lists that were created to discuss a specific area of common interest. Mailing lists were captive audiences and too much of a temptation for some that felt they had to get their message across by any means. Spam E-mail was often sent to multiple mailing lists or news groups. In those days of limited bandwidth, even a single unsolicited message could disrupt the normal communication supported by mailing lists.

It wasn't long before mailing list managers found techniques for reducing unwanted messages and mailing list software was given features to help eliminate Spam messages. In the early days of the Internet, the online community was also quite small compared to today, and there was an established etiquette (or [netiquette](#) :) for mailing list communication and quite a bit of peer pressure to follow that etiquette. Because access points were limited, it was also hard to remain totally anonymous. Your personal identity might not be known, but it was an easy matter to track your message to its access point.

Today, unsolicited E-mail is usually directed at individual addresses. While it is possible to track most E-mail back to its source, entry points are so easily available that closing down a particular address will not stem someone's ongoing activity. Free E-mail accounts are available by the handful, and not all Internet service providers abide by the same etiquette that has been followed since early Internet history. There is also another incentive for people to send unsolicited E-mail: for some, the Internet represents a large market of people who are available to buy a particular product or service they want to sell. Today, unsolicited commercial E-mail is by far the most common complaint of those who tend to complain

about such things.

Yeah, but is it Spam?

I often wonder why some people react so emotionally to unsolicited E-mail. Perhaps they feel that E-mail is part of their personal space, and unsolicited E-mail is an invasion. Perhaps it is because, unlike postal mail, you often can get drawn in by unsolicited E-mail before you realize what it is, and the disappointment at spending the 5-15 seconds reading something you don't care about is too much to bear. Perhaps it is just the very real desire not to be bothered. I guess this question requires the attention of trained psychologists before it can be authoritatively answered.

Over the years, the meaning of the term Spam has seemed to evolve. Different people define the term differently. Some people think that any unsolicited E-mail is Spam. Some think that Spam is only unsolicited commercial E-mail. Some would claim that not all unsolicited E-mail is Spam. They feel that if they find your E-mail address by a legal means, then it is not unethical to send you E-mail you never requested. Some even adopt such activity as an academic research pursuit. What is the harm done by a single unsolicited E-mail? Is it the time wasted reaching for the delete key? Is it the diversion of attention from more interesting material? Is it the increased annoyance of someone trying to sell you something in which you have no interest?

Is it the combined bandwidth used to send communication of doubtful effectiveness?

There is certainly no legal definition of Spam, and no total agreement in the Internet community as to what falls within the range of Spam. Spam can definitely be a nuisance to service providers. A set of several thousand messages going out from or coming to a site can greatly interfere with delivery of the "normal" messages. Those who send unsolicited messages often take advantage of mail servers that will relay their messages to the Internet recipients, even though they have no affiliation with that server and usually no authorization to use it in such a manner. Mail transfer programs now have sophisticated rules that can be used to help prevent such unauthorized transmission, but there are so many servers on the Internet that there are still plenty that will let Spam messages through.

What's an Internet Denizen to do?

I have bad news for the rabidly anti-Spam: Spam is here to stay. You can legislate against Spam in the United States and that will just push Spam off shore. You can send complaints to abuse and postmaster and webmaster and the domain contact for the offending sites through which Spam has been delivered to you, and all that does is take up more network bandwidth and soak up the time of usually sympathetic system administrators who are just trying to keep their little acre of Internet running.

Some people maintain filters on their E-mail to ignore messages which don't meet a particular criteria. To really guard against Spam, you should never give your E-mail address to anyone that you don't know and trust, and you should probably tell those people not to give out your address. This is certainly a solution, but seems a bit too insular to me. Once you send E-mail, you have no control over where that E-mail will end up. It may be forwarded intentionally or not, and end up in the hands of someone who doesn't know to guard your secret E-mail address. If you want to discourage unsolicited messages, it is wise to be very restrictive about putting your E-mail address on application or registration forms, or Web sites. You must also be careful about subscribing to open mailing lists or posting messages to news groups.

A Fifty Percent Solution?

One thing you can do is ignore Spam. Unsolicited noncommercial E-mail sent from a valid E-mail address usually has a person on the other end of that address who will remove you from their mailing list if you ask. Some of the more ethical commercial entities will provide you the same respect (although, you have to be careful, because some remove requests just serve as an address verification for some less than ethical Spammers). But maybe for most of it, you can just delete and ignore. If Spam never elicits any response, then there is no economic incentive to do it, and it may fade away on its own. Keeping Spam in the limelight just encourages those who are looking for a way to get attention. In other words, don't reinforce bad behavior by re-broadcasting an unsolicited message and furthering the Spammer's influence.

I think that a partial solution to Spam would be to make the Internet a less anonymous place. If you can be held accountable for your behavior, you are more likely to stay within the bounds of established etiquette. Most postal mailers must take you off of their mailing list if you request it and you can pursue a legal remedy if they don't. There are also definite rules as to what can be sent via U.S. Mail and how it can be sent. Mail fraud is a crime and the U.S. Postal service is very serious about guarding the integrity of their delivery system. Alas or hurrah, there is no such governing authority on the Internet. With the freedom of the Internet comes the need to tolerate (OK, maybe put up with) behavior that you might find annoying. In other words, preserve the freedom of the Internet: just hit delete.

* We have written all sorts of things about Spam "through the ages" in *Benchmarks Online* and, earlier, in *Benchmarks NewsJournal*. Here is a sample:

- [November 1998](#) "Network Connection" -- "SPAM"
- [April 1998](#) "List of the Month" -- "Spam-L"
- [April 1998](#) "Network Connection" -- "Is Spam Illegal?"
- [Spring/Summer 1997](#) *Benchmarks NewsJournal* -- "Dealing With Junk E-Mail"
- [Spring/Summer 1997](#) *Benchmarks NewsJournal* , "Network Connection" -- "Garbage In: Emerging Media And Regulation of Unsolicited Commercial Solicitations"
- [Fall 1996](#) *Benchmarks NewsJournal* , "Network Connection" -- "Hold that Spam!"

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List of the Month

Each month we highlight an Internet, USENET Special Interest Group (SIG), or similar mailing list(s) or Website(s).

Pollen.com

It's that time of year again, and if you're like everyone else in North Texas, your allergies are acting up. This month's featured Website, Pollen.com (<http://www.pollen.com/home.asp>), won't cure your problems but it may make them easier to live with. That's because, as stated on their Website:

With reliable up-to-the-minute allergy forecasts that show the upcoming airborne allergen conditions in your local environment, Pollen.com prepares you for the day by offering you all the facts - at a glance! This is information that can help you maximize the quality of your life, and perhaps minimize visits to your physician or allergy specialist.

When you visit the site, you can enter your zip code and get an "Allergy Alert" forecast for your area. It will indicate what kind of pollen is in the air and what the risk level is. Risk levels range from low to high and are described as:

HIGH

Pollen levels between 8.1 and 12.0 tend to affect most individuals who suffer from the pollen types of the season. Symptoms may become more severe during days with high pollen levels.

MEDIUM

Pollen levels between 4.1 and 8.0 will likely cause symptoms for many individuals who suffer from allergies to the predominant pollen types of the season.

LOW

Pollen levels between 0 and 4.0 tend to affect very few individuals among the allergy-suffering public.

You can also register for free "Allergy Alert" [E-mail](#), read other items about allergies that are in the news, visit the "pollen library," and generally become more educated about allergies and allergens.

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Do you know what your source code is up to?

By [Shane Jester](#), Campus Web Administrator

There was a [report](#) last week about Microsoft having a backdoor password in IIS Web servers running FrontPage 98 server extensions. It turns out the report may have been incorrect, however the fact that such an incident could have occurred only strengthens my views on the importance of the Open-Source [society](#). That is the exact reason that I choose to run [open-source](#) Web servers such as Apache whenever possible. Obviously, no piece of software is completely secure or bug-free, but when the source-code is freely viewable it helps to diminish the possibilities of a programmer inserting back-door passwords and helps increase the likelihood that bugs in the software are discovered before they can be exploited.

I'm not trying to completely knock Microsoft's products, but you have to consider the following when you're in charge of a Web server:

- How important and sensitive is the data that you are trying to publish?
- Are you truly willing to trust that data's security to a piece of software that has very few checks and balances from the general Web community?

I think I've made my stance on that issue pretty clear. There's no question that commercial Web servers such as IIS are very popular and oftentimes the easiest to set up and maintain. However, that doesn't always make them the right choice.

Until next time.....

For more information, see The American Prospect: Vol 11, ISS 10. March 27, 2000 - April 10, 2000. After Microsoft: [The Open-Source Society](#) and "[Finland -- the open-source society](#)" in Salon.com.

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Short Courses

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks Online* Editor

ACS Short Courses are over for the semester, but resume this summer. Please consult the [Short Courses](#) page to see the sorts of courses that will likely be offered.

Customized Short Courses

Faculty members can request customized short courses from ACS, geared to their class needs. Other groups can request special courses also. Contact ACS for more information (ISB 119, 565-4068, lynch@unt.edu).

Especially for Faculty and Staff Members

In addition to the [ACS Short Courses](#), which are available to students, faculty and staff, staff and faculty members can take courses offered through the [Human Resources](#) Department, the [Center for Distributed Learning](#), and the UNT Libraries' [Multimedia Development Lab](#).

Andrew McGregor, Messaging Support Specialist (amcgregor@unt.edu) 940-369-7688 is currently offering monthly **Basic GroupWise** (BGW) and **Document Management** (DM) Classes. You can Sign up [on-line](#), or you can send an mail to [Lauren Sutherland](#) in Human Resources to sign up. Just remember to include your name and the class you would like to attend. All classes are from 10:00 to 12:00 in ESSC room 152. Following is the list of classes:

Class	Date
DM	Tuesday, May 22
BGW	Friday, June 15
DM	Tuesday, June 26
BGW	Tuesday, July 24
DM	Wednesday, July 25
BGW	Friday, August 17
DM	Tuesday, August 14

Center for Distributed Learning

The Center for Distributed Learning offers courses especially for Faculty Members. A list of topics and further information can be found at http://www.unt.edu/cdl/training_events/index.htm The center also offers a "Brown Bag" series which meets for lunch the first Thursday of each month at Noon in ISB 204. The purpose of this group is to bring faculty members together to share their experiences with distributed learning. One demonstration will be made at each meeting by a faculty member with experience in distributed learning. More

information on these activities can be found at the [Center for Distributed Learning](#) Web site.

UNT Libraries'

The UNT Libraries' Multimedia Development Lab has also offered free training to all University of North Texas faculty and staff in the basics of FrontPage and information architecture in the past. For more information see <http://www.library.unt.edu/media/services.htm#Distributed>.

Technical Training

Technical Training for campus network managers is available, from time to time, through the [Campus-Wide Networks](#) division of the Computing Center. Check the CWN site to see if and when they are offering any training.

UNT Mini-Courses

These are a variety of courses offered, for a fee, to UNT faculty, staff and students as well as the general public. For additional information surf over to http://www.unt.edu/cccem/cont_ed/Minicourse/Courses/UNT_Minicourse_Page.htm.

Alternate Forms of Training

The [Training](#) Web site has all sorts of information about alternate forms of training. Training tapes, Computer Based Training ([CBT](#)) and Web-based training are some of the alternatives offered. There are also handouts for computer training on the following topics:

- GroupWise 5.2 Handout for Win95/NT
- FAQ for GroupWise 5.2
- Computers - Back to the Basics
- Introduction to Windows 95 /98/NT
- Introduction to Word 97
- Advanced Word 97 - MailMerge It Together
- Introduction to PowerPoint 97 (Creating a Slide Show)
- Introduction to Remedy (THE Call-Tracking Program)

•

[StudyWeb](#)

AND, the [award winning](#) Introduction to Excel 97

Adobe Acrobat Reader Format only for the following:

- Introduction to Microsoft Word 2000
- Introduction to Microsoft Excel 2000
- Creating a Slide Show with PowerPoint 2000
- Using Netscape Communicator & the UNT Home Page

Use the Internet to search for answers to Microsoft Office problems. See <http://www.zdnet.com/zdhelp/filters/office/> December 1999's "[List of the Month](#)" offers links to free Microsoft Word and Excel information also.

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IRC News



Minutes provided by Sue Ellen Richey,
Recording Secretary

IRC Regular and Ex-officio Voting Members: Judith Adkison, College of Education; Ginny Anderson, Fiscal Affairs; Donna Asher, Administrative Affairs; Craig Berry, School of Visual Arts; Sue Byron, Faculty Senate; Bobby Carter, UNT Health Science Center; Jim Curry, Academic Administration; VACANT, Student Association, Don Grose, Libraries; Jenny Jopling, Instruction Program Group; Joneel Harris, Administrative Program Group; Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, Standards and Cooperation Program Group; Abraham John, Student Affairs; VACANT, Graduate Student Council; VACANT, University Planning Council; Ramu Muthiah, School of Community Services, GALMAC; Jon Nelson, College of Music; Robert Nimocks, Director, Information Technology, UNTHSC; Patrick Pluscht, Distributed Learning Team; Mark Rorvig, Research Program Group (Acting Chair); Paul Schlieve, Communications Program Group; Kathleen Swigger, College of Arts and Sciences; Philip Turner, School of Library and Information Science and University Planning Council (Chair, IRC);; Virginia Wheelless, Chancellor; John Windsor, College of Business. **IRC Ex-officio Nonvoting Members:** VACANT, Telecommunications; Bill Buntain, Computing Center Networking; Jim Curry, Microcomputer Maintenance Shop; Richard Harris, Computing Center; Coy Hoggard, Computing Center; Joel Lanpher, UNT Health Science Center; Maurice Leatherbury, Computing Center; Sue Ellen Richey, Computing Center (Recording Secretary). [As of 10/2000]

April 17, 2001

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: CHAIR: PHILIP TURNER, JON NELSON, JIM CURRY, PAUL SCHLIEVE, ELIZABETH HINKLE-TURNER, JUDITH ADKISON, MARGARET HUDNALL, PATRICK PLUSCHT, JONEEL HARRIS, ROBERT NIMOCKS, BOBBY CARTER, MIKE IMPSON, DONNA ASHER, GINNY ANDERSON, CENGIZ CAPAN, CRAIG BERRY, PAM HIGHT (for DON GROSE)

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: RICHARD HARRIS, COY HOGGARD, MAURICE LEATHERBURY, SUE ELLEN RICHEY (Recording Secretary)

MEMBERS ABSENT: KATHLEEN SWIGGER, JENNY JOPLING, RAMU MUTHIAH, MARK RORVIG, JOEL LANPHEAR, ALLEN LIVINGSTON, VIRGINIA WHEELLESS, DON GROSE

GUESTS: JAMES STRAWN, JOHN HOOPER, JENNIFER LAFLEUR, LOU ANN BRADLEY

The minutes of the March 13, 2001 IRC meeting were approved as distributed.

Dr. Turner announced that the Faculty Senate had approved the new Computer Use policy.

Distributed Computing Support Management Team

Maurice Leatherbury reported for the Distributed Computing Support Management Team that Doug Jackson from UT Dallas made a presentation regarding their campus wireless

network.

Instruction Program Group

There was no report from the Instruction Program Group.

Communications Program Group

Paul Schlieve reported for the Communications Program Group that the Packeteer product seems to be doing an excellent job of allowing the tracking and management of the internet traffic going to and from the dorms. The group discussed using a higher performance version of the product that is not yet on the market as a way of monitoring overall kinds of traffic on the internet backbone. The group also discussed the Cisco management tools that are available, in terms of identifying bottlenecks and hot spots on campus and good base line data is now being accumulated. This should help to predict needs for internet and other kinds of network expansion. The group also talked about Internet2 and its potential in research, and Paul explained that anyone using TCP/IP and connecting to an Internet2 site will experience excellent response, as the traffic is automatically routed, with no intervention, across the Internet2 backbone. Paul stated that it is quite clear that by connecting to Internet2, UNT has positioned itself to be eligible for significant research grant funding. In response to a question about how faculty are being informed of the Internet2 possibilities, Paul reported that some sort of event or activity on campus has been discussed in order to generate interest in Internet2 opportunities. Maurice Leatherbury stated that the Gigapop Advisory Council has discussed the possibility of future events like the Internet2 Party, to give faculty a chance to talk with one another.

Paul Schlieve reported that the Program Group also discussed the quality of service when using Internet2 and agreed that future issues to consider will be bandwidth reservations, and scheduling. Patrick Pluscht commented that distributed learning's video-conferencing is already tied into Internet2.

Administrative Program Group

Joneel Harris reported for the Administrative Program Group that they have made some progress on the EIS project. A Steering Committee, as well as a Project Team and various work groups are being formed to assist with the evaluation and potential purchase and implementation of the new Enterprise Information System. Joneel reported that a contract has been finalized with NCHEMS for consultant, Chuck Thomas, who will provide expert opinion and advice during selection and negotiations for the software products and services for the administrative information system. Warren Burgren and Jon Young have been added to the Project Team. Also, to clarify the minutes of the March IRC meeting, Joneel added that Margaret Hudnell is one of two faculty senate representatives on the Enrollment Management Committee and as such has participated in the development of EIS requirements and will assist in vendor evaluation. Joneel noted that the EIS requirements document can be viewed on the Web at <http://notes2.nms.unt.edu/ERPReq.nsf>. This document will be shared with the three primary vendors: SCT, Oracle and PeopleSoft for their review prior to the request for offer being issued by Purchasing.

Joneel requested that a change in status of the Administrative Program Group be considered by the IRC. Dr. Turner explained that because of the overlap in the membership and the charges of the emerging EIS Project Team and the existing Administrative Program Group, the program group should probably be suspended for the duration of the EIS project. The Chair asked that the Council consider this suggestion, and the question will be brought

before the Council for vote at the May meeting. It was explained that if approved, the EIS Project Team will serve as an ad hoc committee that will make reports to the IRC, and officially will report to Phil Diebel, as Chair of the EIS Steering Committee.

Research Program Group

Maurice Leatherbury reported for the Research Program Group that they are awaiting program announcements from the National Science Foundation.

Standards & Cooperation Program Group

Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner reported for the Standards & Cooperation Program Group that they will be working on the first draft of the Security Policy at their next meeting.

Distributed Learning

Patrick Pluscht reported for the Distributed Learning Team that the Distributed Learning Steering Committee met on April 5 to consider a number of distributed learning program proposals: 2 master's degree programs in Educational Administration (one to Region 10; one to Region 11) by videoconference; ; 2 doctoral programs in Educational Administration by videoconference pending approval by the Coordinating Board; 4 web-based alternative certification courses in Secondary Education and a Web Institute for the Master's in Library & Information Science which will consist of two weeks of intensive work onsite with the remainder of the program to be conducted online. All proposed programs and courses were recommended for approval to the Provost and President.

Maurice Leatherbury announced that the review committee for the Teaching With Technology Grants will meet Friday, April 20th.

The chair announced that there is a new policy stating that the State of Texas will no longer allow the charging of tuition for out-of-state students enrolled in an electronically delivered courses. Consequently these courses will not be included when the State figures UNT's appropriations. To allow for this, an out-of-state alternative tuition fee will be instituted. Each program will determine its own alternative tuition fee based on the costs for delivering the program to out-of-state students; 83% of the fee will come into the College or School and as negotiated to the sponsoring department. Dr. Turner sees this as a great opportunity for source of revenue to departments offering distributed learning courses. This also means that credit hours will not be generated by out-of-state students who enroll in these electronic courses. Details are available at http://www.unt.edu/cdl/funding_opps/alt_tuition/alt_tuition.htm

The Chair also reported that in order to have a course approved for electronic delivery, there has to be an intellectual property policy in place. This does not apply to videoconference courses unless the course is to be recorded and redistributed.

TIF Grant Advisory Committee

In response to a question from Patrick, Maurice Leatherbury reported that the TIF Grant Advisory Committee would be called together to consider funding grants. He said that he'd heard informally that they would no longer fund hardware and wiring grants.

General Access Labs

Cengiz Capan reported the results of an Auditor's review of the General Access Labs. The Auditors looked at accounting procedures as well as policies and procedures; they visited all of the Lab Managers, looked at purchase orders, etc. to make sure that the monies had been spent properly and that labs were being operated properly. Cengiz submitted copies of the Auditor's reports to the Recording Secretary for filing with IRC documents.

There being no further business, the IRC meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

IRC Meeting Schedule

The **IRC** generally meets on the third Tuesday of each month, from 2-4 p.m., in the Administration Building Board Room. From time to time there are planned exceptions to this schedule. All meetings of the IRC, its program groups, and other committees, are open to all faculty, staff, and students.

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Staff Activities

Transitions

The following are new employees:

- **Diane Kohlhase**, Programmer/Analyst, UNT/HSC Fiscal Data Systems Team.
- **Lisa Hulbert**, Programmer, UNT/HSC Fiscal Data Systems Team.
- **Richard Brown**, Programmer, UNT/HSC Fiscal Data Systems Team.

The following people no longer work in the Computing Center:

- **Patti Price**, RSS Statistical Consultant (part-time).
- *name removed by request*, Production Control Scheduler.

Changes

- **Rebecca Padia**, Planning and Administration Administrative Assistant, has moved from ISB 235A to ISB 235L.

Awards, Recognition

The Computing Center has had a lot of people recognized as Soaring Eagles recently. The following folks will receive awards at the President's staff sack lunch on May 9, 2001. These notices were contained in the May 2001 *Human Resources Newsletter* :

- **Allen Akers**, Voice & Web Strategic Applications Programmer/Analyst: "we heard that you recently put in many extra hours (including weekends and a few 'all-nighters' to meet a deadline. Thanks for your efforts and for your patient, positive attitude."
- **Allen Akers**, Voice & Web Strategic Applications Programmer/Analyst; **Barbara Heffley**, UNT/HSC Fiscal Data Systems Programmer; and **Dan Strange**, NT/HSC Fiscal Data Systems Programmer/Analyst: "thanks are coming your way for all your hard work developing a new Web application."
- **Gini Kennedy** and **Linda Wallace**, both Programmer/Analysts with the Student Records Data Systems Team: "thanks to both of you for using your lunch hour to help a colleague paint and paper his office!"
- **Brendan Carroll**, Computer Support Specialist, ABN Server/User Support: "when a student collapsed, you immediately stepped in to render assistance. As it turns out, your quick action may well have saved his life. You really Soar!"

Presentations

Patti Price, RSS Statistical Consultant, presented her research on international adoption outcomes at the [Society for Research in Child Development](#) in April. In [June](#) she will also be presenting this research and research on student attitudes toward Web-based learning to the American Psychological Society.

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Campus Computing News

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Presidential Inauguration a Streaming Success!

Dr. Norval Pohl was named UNT's 13th President on October 15, 2000 and at 3 p.m. on May 4, 2001 he was inaugurated -- live, and on the Internet. That's right, as the inauguration was taking place in the Coliseum, streaming audio and video was being sent out over the Internet.* It was also broadcast on NTTV.

According to [Austin Laird](#), Distance Learning Administrator in Central Web Support, The Center for Media Production (CMP) filmed and actually encoded the live stream. It was then sent to Central Web Support's streaming media server. This was the first live Internet broadcast here at UNT and everyone involved agrees it was a resounding success.

Laird, who was monitoring the media server, stated that the stream was uninterrupted, with good audio and video. The number of users connected peaked at fifty-four at 3:45 p.m. An average of fifty connections were maintained from 3:20 until the end of Dr. Pohl's speech.

There were a total of 187 requests for the stream; 111 of those from unique IP addresses. Twenty-five of the requests were from outside of the UNT domain. That left 86 unique UNT IPs, which would include anyone watching from dialup (if anyone braved it from dialup :-)

You missed the inauguration?

If you weren't able to attend the inauguration or watch it from the comfort of your home/office, all is not lost. You can see what all the "pomp and circumstance" was about here: <http://www.unt.edu/inaugural> Not only are there links to streams of Dr. Pohl's speech and the presentation of the mace and medallion to Dr. Pohl, there are also links to information about former Presidents and Chancellors of UNT, biographical information about Dr. Pohl, information about the UNT system, and more.

Webcasts in the future

The Center for Media Production has plans to do future Webcasts of graduations, convocations, Faculty Regents lectures and other events. All of these using the [Central Web Support](#) server. CMP sample streams can be found at <http://www.cmp.unt.edu/streamedsamples.htm>

*Streaming media defined (from <http://illinois.online.uillinois.edu/IONresources/streamingMedia/Introduction.html> -- further information available from this site.)

Streaming media is delivery of continuous audio, video, and/or text over the

internet. The media is fed to the user as the media is viewed. In other words, it's a continuous transaction. This is very different from the typical "stateless" internet transactions which require all data to be downloaded before the media file can be accessed. Non-streaming files such as most .wav, .avi and .mov files download completely to the client computer before they begin to play. If the file is relatively long, as would be the case with a lecture, the time to download might be the same as the length of the lecture!

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Summer Computing Hours

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Following are the hours for Computing Center-managed facilities during May Mini-mester and the summer. All staff offices will be closed Wednesday, July 4, 2001 for Independence Day.

- **Print Services (I/O):** Print Services will maintain regular hours (6 a.m. - 2 a.m. M-F, 8 a.m. - Midnight Saturday) during the semester break and over the summer.
- The **Helpdesk (ISB 119)** will be open for normal business hours: 8:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m., Monday - Friday, and 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Saturday.
- The **ACS General Access Lab (ISB 110)** will maintain [normal hours](#) except the following: It will be **closed** Sat - Sun May 12-13; **Closed** Sat-Sun June 2 - 3; **Closed** Wed. July 4 for campus holiday; **Closed** Sat-Sun July 7 - 8; **Closed** Sat. August 11 - Sunday August 26. **Regular hours will resume Monday, August 27** (7:30 a.m. - midnight).

Hours for Other Campus Facilities

The University is [officially](#) closed Wednesday, July 4, 2001 for Independence Day.

UNT Libraries

Click [here](#) to find out the library hours in effect for May Mini-mester, May 13, 2001 to June 2, 2001. Click [here](#) to find out the library hours in effect for the summer, May 13, 2001 to June 2, 2001.

General Access Labs*

- [WILLIS](#):
Friday 5/11 **Close** at 5:50p.m.
Saturday 5/12 Open 8:00a.m.- 5:50p.m.
Sunday 5/13 Open 1:00p.m.- 10:00p.m.
See Mini-mester hours at <http://www.library.unt.edu/glab/hours.htm>

Sunday 6/3 Open 1:00 p.m. Resume 24 hr availability.

Closed Wednesday 7/4 - National Holiday
Thursday Open 8:00 a.m., Resume 24 hr availability.

Friday 8/10 Open 7:30 a.m.-5:50 p.m.
Saturday 8/11 Open 9:00a.m.-5:50 p.m.
8/12-8/ 23 Open 8:00a.m.-5:50p.m.

Friday 8/24 Open 8:00a.m.-3:30p.m.
Saturday 8/25 Open 8:00a.m.-5:50p.m.
Sunday 8/26 Open 1:00p.m.(back to 24hrs)

- SLIS:

Mini-mester (5/13-6/2):
Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Closed Saturday and Sunday

Closed Wednesday 7/4 - National Holiday

Summer (6/3-8/9)
Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

- MUSIC:

Mini-mester (5/13-6/2):
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Closed Saturday and Sunday

Closed Wednesday 7/4 - National Holiday

Summer (6/3-8/9)
M-F 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Closed Saturday and Sunday

- SCS:

View hours at <http://penguin.scs.unt.edu/labs/chil255/hours.html>

The following variations to the schedule are planned:

The lab will **close** at 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, 5/30 and reopen at 8:00 a.m. Monday, 6/4.

Closed Wednesday 7/4 - National Holiday

The lab will **close** 5:00 p.m. Friday, 7/7 and reopen at 8:00 a.m. Monday, 7/9

The lab will **close** at 5:00 p.m. Friday, 8/11 and reopen at 8:00 a.m. Monday, 8/ 27

- COE:

Summer hours remain constant:

Monday-Thursday 7 a.m. - Midnight
Friday 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday Noon - 8 p.m.

Sunday 2 p.m. - Midnight

Closed Wednesday 7/4 - National Holiday

- [COBA:](#)

Normal Hours except:

Friday, 5/11 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday-Sunday, 5/12-13 Monday,
5/14 8:00 a.m. - Midnight

Closed Wednesday, 7/4 - National Holiday

Friday, 8/11 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, 8/12 through Sunday, 8/26
Monday, 8/27 8:00 a.m. - Midnight

- [CAS:](#)

[GAB 330](#) - View hours at

<http://www.cas.unt.edu/gal/labs/gab330.htm#Hours>

[GAB 550](#) - View hours at

<http://www.cas.unt.edu/gal/labs/gab550.htm#Hours>

[TH 220](#) - View hours at <http://www.cas.unt.edu/gal/labs/th220.htm#Hours>

[WH 120](#) - View hours at

<http://www.cas.unt.edu/gal/labs/wh120.htm#Hours>

- [Art:](#)

For the Mini-mester (5/13-6/2), and the Summer (6/3-8/9) SOVA will be open:

8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday

Closed Saturday during Mini-mester, Open Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. both summer sessions.

Noon - 8 p.m. Sunday

Closed Wednesday 7/4 - National Holiday

*Regular hours can be found at <http://www.gal.unt.edu/hours/index.html>

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Did you have something to sell?

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks Online* Editor

*GroupWise E-mail [spam](#) continues to be a problem. Several times last month messages were sent out reminding GroupWise users that **violations of the guidelines listed below will be handled by the Vice Presidents and/or Deans of the respective departments.** This is an edited version of an article that appeared in the [March, 2001](#) issue of *Benchmarks Online*. -- Ed.*

How many times have you gotten GroupWise messages announcing that someone has something to sell or someone's lights are on or some other topic that doesn't seem to warrant a campus-wide heads up? About twice a year the following "Large Group E-mail Guidelines" policy is sent to all GroupWise users. Please be aware that "bulk mail" sent through GroupWise is to be **for UNT business only**. (We have a The bulk E-mail [service](#) for official communications between UNT and students.)

If you have something to sell or want to hire someone for odd jobs or the like, UNT has Newsgroups for that purpose. Some of the UNT newsgroups are [unt.forsale](#), [unt.job.offered](#), [unt.job.wanted](#), [unt.general](#), and [unt.networking](#).

Please review the following policy as set out by the Vice Presidents and Provost in 1997.

Large Group E-mail Guidelines- 2/17/97:

The Provost and all Vice Presidents recommend the following guidelines for using large E-mail groups:

1. Departments and individuals should be judicious in sending E-mail to all faculty and staff. Many recipients may consider the message to be annoying "junk mail," especially if "everyone" messages continue to proliferate at the current rate. As a general guideline, the message should be of sufficient general value that it would justify being sent as a memorandum if E-mail were not available. In other words, is the message important enough to justify sending to virtually every University employee? Campus-wide discussions should use Usenet news groups, not E-mail.
2. All large group mailings should use appropriate mail groups. A public group will be maintained in the GroupWise (GW) address directory that will include all UNT faculty and staff in the GW directory, as well as more limited groups such as department heads and account holders. Offices or individuals that make frequent or regular large group mailings, that are not official notifications to all faculty and staff, are encouraged to maintain their own groups. Messages to these groups should have an introduction indicating willingness to remove an individual from the group if requested by return E-mail.
3. Anyone sending mail to large groups should use the GroupWise send options to conserve system resources. In the "Mail To" screen, select "send" and then "send options." For the current mail message, these options will override the typical preferences. Generally, the following

send options should be selected:

- no status information
- low priority
- expiration date set to delete unopened messages in two work days
- do not notify recipients unless it is an urgent official message
- no return notification
- no reply requested

Also, from the main GW screen, select "file" and "preferences" to confirm that the "advanced" send option is set to "insert in out box." Then, if a mistake is made, the out box message may be used to "delete" the message from all "in boxes," correct it, and resend. Take care to delete from in boxes, not the out box.

Managing GroupWise "Everyone Mail"

If you are overwhelmed with the quantity of messages that you receive from "UNT GW Directory List ***" ["Everyone Mail"], you have at least two options for handling those messages.

1. Automatically file the incoming mail in a folder. This allows you to browse the messages at your convenience without cluttering up your main mailbox folder.
2. Alternatively, you can create a rule which automatically deletes incoming mail from that group.

For detailed instructions on setting the GroupWise rules for both of these options, browse <http://www.unt.edu/cwn/rules/index.html>. Note that these procedures **do not** prevent you from receiving "official" messages like emergency weather warnings, road closures or other important notices.

For detailed information on other GroupWise features, browse the online manual at <http://www.unt.edu/cwn/gw/manuals/index.html>

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Lab-of-the-Month: The College of Music General Access Lab

By [Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner](#), Student Computing Services Manager

Have you ever wanted to be a rock star? How about the greatest rap artist since Dr. Dre? Is a symphony worthy of Beethoven burning in your soul? Or perhaps you have visions of being the next George Lucas? Members of the University community can realize all of these dreams -- and more -- if they step into the General Access Lab located in the College of Music! The three-room COM lab (entrance in room 239 of the Music Building) offers one of the largest and most varied technical inventories of all of the general access facilities, reflecting the great variety of musical and artistic forms taught today on the UNT campus.



The standard music station in the COM lab

Though located in the Music Building, this lab is open to all university community members and is a favorite spot of students who may not be music majors but continue to make music a vital part of their lives. In this lab you will find one of the largest inventories of Macintosh computers reflecting this platform's usefulness in the fine arts arena. The main room of the COM lab features several 350 mHz iMacs and a G4 450 mHz machine. Additionally, the PC platform is represented by a selection of Pentium II 400s. Each lab station is optimized for musical production with a Roland SC-50/55 Sound Canvas (a general MIDI* synthesizer) and a Roland MK-11200 MIDI controller keyboard for musical performance and musical data entry.



One of the special editing stations available in the COM lab

A smaller second room in the lab features what manager James Kazik calls "The Special Stations." Kazik reports that this room recently has seen the most activity on the part of the students. The room features an advanced MIDI workstation, an audio editing station, two scanners and four CD burners. Computers in this room include four Macintosh G3's, a Macintosh G4 (with an external 2GB Jaz drive) and five Pentium II 400s. The MIDI and audio workstations offer advanced digital recording and editing options for the production of professional quality CD demos and electronic music works. Eminem and Depeche Mode would feel right at home in this room creating their latest hit CDs.



Create your Oscar-winning film here at the massive A/V production station!

Lucas, Spielberg, and even Woody Allen would love to sit down and work at another specialized station in the College of Music lab: the Audio/Video Editing Station. Created initially for distributed learning projects, this station has proven popular and useful for composers of multimedia projects that involve various audio sources and video. With 450 MHz Macintosh G4 and a 45 GB RAID array, any aspiring film maker would have all of the digital power and space he or she needs. Additional equipment on this station includes a Panasonic SVHS deck, a Sony DVD player, a dual cassette deck and a DAT machine, a Mackie 16 channel mixer, and a turntable. Patrons are also able to connect their own equipment into the station with the permission of the lab manager. To

supplement this station, the lab makes available for checkout a digital still camera, two digital camcorders, a portable DAT recorder, a portable MiniDisc recorder, and an Audio-Technica stereo microphone.



The newest room of the COM lab is also used for piano classes

A new addition to the music lab is its piano classroom, which is utilized for keyboard classes but is also made available for music publishing and production work. This room features fifteen Pentium III 500 mHz computers and larger MIDI keyboards.



The advanced MIDI editing station in the COM lab

The College of Music General Access lab has all of the **standard** E-mail, Web browsing and Microsoft Office software of the other labs with many additional applications specifically geared to music use. Anyone who wants to test and train their listening skills can use a variety of ear-training software. For those who need publisher-quality musical scores (or even if you just want to print something your band can read easily at their Groovy Mule gig!), Finale notation software and laser printing are available. Those wanting to work on compositions have a variety of MIDI sequencing and editing packages to choose from including Performer 6.0, Digital Performer 2.7, Cakewalk 8.0, and MAX with MSP. Audio editing software available includes Peak 2.5, Sound Forge 4.5, Sound Edit 16, and Pro Tools. Video fans have their choice of Adobe Premiere and After Effects, Final Cut Pro, iMovie 2.0, and the Media Cleaner suite for their work.

Lab personnel are hired for their considerable skills in music and multimedia technology and several are on hand to help lab customers do their work and

realize their artistic dreams. Newcomers to the lab are welcome to ask for special training on the lab equipment from these knowledgeable workers. The lab is always busy with creative activity! To learn more about the College of Music General Access Lab check out their Website at www.music.unt.edu/musiclab.

**MIDI is an acronym meaning "Musical Instrumental Digital Interface." It refers to a protocol for digital communication between computers and musical instruments.*

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Renew PRAS Accounts for the Summer

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks Online* Editor

If you purchased a **Premium Remote Access Service** subscription for the spring semester -- or had paid through the spring -- and you want to keep it, you will need to renew it. You may also need to take action to ensure the continuation of your UNT Internet Account, under certain circumstances. Details for renewal of both these services follows.

Premium Remote Access Service Renewals*

Renewals may be purchased in person or over the phone at the software department of the Union Bookstore (940/565 3185). Basic subscriptions for the spring are \$45. ISDN (128K) subscriptions cost \$90.

These subscription renewals will become active Friday, 1 June 2001. **All subscriptions that have not been renewed by Friday, 1 June 2001 will be deactivated on Monday, 4 June 2001.** Please E-mail any questions regarding renewal to pras@unt.edu

Internet Service Account Renewals

People who are no longer associated with the University lose their eligibility to have access to many services, including various computing services. If you have been notified that your account is going to be disabled and you are still associated with the University, please contact the Computing Center Helpdesk at (940) 565 2324 or to helpdesk@unt.edu. Retirees may continue to have a UNT Internet Service account, however these accounts must be renewed annually. You may be asked to provide documentation of eligibility for this service due to the absence of available data on retirees at this time.

*Questions about PRAS? We answered some common ones in our [August 1998 PRAS renewal article](#). The [Remote Access](#) area of the Helpdesk Website is also chock full of information on that topic.

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Today's CARTOON



**“Opportunity paged me, beeped me, linked me,
e-mailed me, faxed me, and spammed me.
But I was expecting it to knock!”**

From "Today's Cartoon by Randy Glasbergen", posted with special permission.
For many more cartoons, please visit www.glasbergen.com.