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Campus Computing News

Dr. Leatherbury asks the question "What's In a Name?" The answer may surprise you.

Going, Going, Gone . . .

Don't forget that a number of long-time services are being terminated, details inside.

Summer Hours

The known hours for Computing and Information Technology Center-managed facilities for the summer, including May minimester are listed here.

Protecting Your EagleMail Account from Spam

The title pretty much says it all, details inside.

Digital Printing at UNT

 \mathbf{P} rinting Services has entered the era of digital printing, with the hp indigo 3000 press. Read all about it!

New Checkin Lab Software Makes its Debut this Summer

 ${f F}$ or the past year Academic Computing Services

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Center



(ACS) has been developing the next incarnation of our Checkin software which has been used by our general access lab for almost ten years.

Do You Have Something to tell Everyone?

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?



Click on the title above for an information age laugh.

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

- <u>RSS Matters</u> -- Patrick McLeod is "Speaking of Stata" this month. See "Summer Training Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research" on this page also.
- <u>SAS Corner</u> -- "SAS Version 9: The Data Step." This is a continuation of the "What's new in SAS Version 9" series.
- The Network Connection -- "Apple's Online Music Store: Plenty of Soul, but, Alas, not much Class." What in the world could that mean?
- Link of the Month -- "Frequently Asked Questions." Answers provided by the Help Desk.
- <u>WWW@UNT.EDU</u>-- "Resource Management on a Budget: Part II."
- <u>Short Courses</u> -- Spring Short Courses are over, but there are still other training opportunities for you.
- <u>IRC News -</u>- Minutes of the Information Resources Council are printed here when they are available. The March 11 minutes

are included this time.

• <u>Staff Activities</u> -- New employees, people who are no longer employed at the Computing and Information Technology Center, awards and recognitions and other items of interest featured here.

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Research and Statistical Support University of North Texas

RSS Matters

Link to the last RSS article here: <u>Resampling Based Statistics in S-Plus for</u> <u>Windows: An Example Using the MANOVA Procedure</u> - Ed.

Speaking of Stata

By Patrick McLeod, Research and Statistical Support Services Consultant

Hello! My name is Patrick McLeod. I'm the newest addition to the UNT Computing Center's Research and Statistical Support group. This article is intended to give someone who is interested in learning more about Stata an introduction to the latest version of Stata (Stata 8), how to sign up for the Stata listserv, and some information on Stata Corp.

Stata 7 versus Stata 8: Having Your Cake and Eating It, Too

There are several routine improvements of Stata 8 over Stata 7, but the big news is the addition of a GUI interface to Stata 8. This marks the first time a version of Stata adds an interface other than the traditional Stata command line.

Purists, fear not! The command line is intact and functional as always (and, in my estimation, still the best way of doing things), but the GUI interface does offer a quantum leap in functionality for employing Stata as a teaching tool in undergraduate classes and for "quick and dirty" analyses where the researcher does not want write lines of code to generate a basic result.

Statalist: The Best Resource for Cutting Edge Intelligence

http://www.stata.com/support/statalist/

Visiting the link above will provide you with all the information you need to subscribe to the incredibly active and informative Stata listserv. The listserv is hosted by Marcello Pagano at Harvard University and is a very valuable source of information on both Stata and user-authored Stata routines.

Subscribing to the Stata listserv is free. For those who either check their email infrequently or do not like high-volume email

Stata at UNT: Who To Ask

If you have any questions about Stata, please contact me at <u>mcleod@cc.admin.unt.edu</u> or at 565-4066. I am located in ISB 124. I am always interested in hearing of new Stata users or existing Stata users here at UNT, so send me an email or call me and let me know what Stata is doing for you!

Stata Corp: The Company Behind Everyone's Best Friend

Stata Corporation is headquartered in College Station, Texas. Stata was founded by a group of biology, economics, and statistics professors from Texas A&M and has resided in College Station since its inception. Contact information can be found here: <u>http://www.stata.com/info/about.html</u>.

Summer Training Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research

The Summer Training Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, sponsored by the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), serves Consortium member colleges and universities by offering a comprehensive, integrated program of studies in research design, statistics, data analysis, and social methodology. In general, emphasis is focused on those courses and subjects that are not normally integral parts of the curricula of member institutions. This is not because the courses are of limited importance but because most colleges and universities find that it is not practical to support the sort of specialized offerings that form the core of the Summer Training Program's curriculum.

The Program's instructional environment differs from that of all but a few statistics departments in at least two important respects:

* Methods of quantitative analysis are studied within the broader context of substantive social science research.

* Instruction is coordinated with and reinforced by active, participatory data-analytic experiences.

The Summer Training Program schedule is partitioned into two four-week sessions, with instruction organized in lecture, seminar, and workshop formats. In addition, the curriculum includes special workshops that provide participants with opportunities to examine the impact of various methodologies on specific substantive issues. Research scholars who have made important contributions to the development of social methodology present informal lectures focusing on their most recent research interests. Finally, workshops that address the practical objectives of providing technical support for computing specialists and data librarians are also offered.

If you are interested in the program, please contact the ICPSR Official Representative for UNT, Patrick Brandt (<u>brandt@unt.edu</u>). In addition, the Summer Program makes available a limited set of money for UNT attendees to travel to the program. For more information, see http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/training/summer/index.html

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Research and Statistical Support University of North Texas

SAS Corner

SAS Version 9: The Data Step

By Garvii Thomas, Research and Statistical Support Services Consultant

This is a continuation of the "What's new in SAS Version 9" <u>series</u>. In this months' article we will examine the additions and changes that were made to the DATA step. Some of the topics includes:

- Data validation
- Replacing text
- Extracting text
- PRX Functions
- Comparisons with Perl and RX
- Adding Data
- Hash Table details
- Functions
- Performance Enhancements
- SAS Macro Language options

This following link gives your all the changes SAS has made to the DATA step in this new version.

Link: http://support.sas.com/rnd/base/topics/datastep/dsv9-sugi-v2.pdf

Any additional questions contact the Office of Research and Statistical Support at 940-565-4066.

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Network Connection

By Dr. Philip Baczewski, Associate Director of Academic Computing

Apple's Online Music Store: Plenty of Soul, but, Alas, not much Class

In case you missed it, Apple Computer has started an online <u>music store</u> to work with it's <u>iTunes</u> music program. Of course, if you are a Windows user, you probably missed it, because iTunes, while free to Mac OS users, is not available for Windows, a bit of a marketing mistake on the part of Apple I think (they promise Windows version by the "end of the year"). However, for those of us sufficiently blessed to have access to OS X and iTunes, the iTunes Music Store is pretty slick technology.

To Serve Music

Apple has done a logical thing that the RIAA can't seem to get its members to do (they're too busy <u>suing</u> poor college students). They saw that people wanted the convenience of downloading music from the Internet and made it available with immediacy and at a somewhat reasonable price. Unlike other online music services, there is no monthly fee associated with access to the Apple Music Store. Instead, you pay as you go for whatever you download and then have the right to that music for your personal use.

Individual tracks cost \$.99. Albums are in the \$9.00-\$30 range depending upon the amount of music they include. iTunes allows you to listen immediately to what you've purchased, to download tracks to your iPod (Apple's mp3 player), or to burn your music onto a CD. iTunes provides a simple browsing and searching mechanism and even plays a 30 second preview of any track that's available for purchase. In usual Apple style, a lot of work has been done to create an elegant and useful interface which is immediately accessible to the average computer user.

An Instant Hit

Apple announced the iTunes Music Store (that's its official name) on Monday, April 28 via one of those Steve Jobs <u>shows</u> held at the Moscone Center in San Francisco. In the week that followed, Apple sold over a million tracks, including a large portion which was album <u>sales</u>. I doubt that they can sustain that sales pace, but there's no doubt it indicates that the iTunes Music Store is a hit with a large group of Mac users. They had about 200,000 tracks at the store's inception and over 100,000 were purchased in the first week. Apple states that this demonstrates that the store serves a "breadth of musical tastes" -- well, not that broad.

Going Shopping

When I saw the announcement about iTunes and the music store, I decided to give it a try, or at least try to see if it would be useful. As a sometimes composer of art music (when I'm not busy wrestling with computers), my musical tastes range from Andy Narell to Zemlinsky. I

decided to see if some of my recent purchases were available from the iTunes store.

It had been a long time since I'd listened to Alban Berg's violin concerto and I only have it on LP (an ancient analog technology which used a vinyl storage medium). I'd bought a CD recording of the work recorded by Anne-Sophie Mutter as the soloist with James Levine conducting (Polygram). I tried to find it on iTunes by searching within the Classical genre. No luck finding the Violin Concerto. No music of Berg at all. What about other composers from the second Viennese school? No Webern. No Zemlinsky. Starting to panic. A hit on Schoenberg. Two albums which include Schoenberg's "Gurrelieder" but nothing else of his considerable output (you'd at least expect to find his romantic pre-atonal "Verklarte Nacht").

Well, if Berg is too extreme for iTunes, I decided to see if another recent purchase of mine was represented. It is an album with the violinist Gidon Kremer playing the music of Astor Piazzolla ("Tracing Astor", Nonesuch). No Kremer. One track in "Classical" by Piazzolla, but not what I'm looking for. Just for a sanity check, I decided to see if the iTunes store had my other recent purchase. They did indeed have tracks from the Dixie Chicks' album, "Home", but not the entire album. Thank goodness I'm not totally outside the musical mainstream.

Taking the "Class" out of Classical

In poking around the iTunes store, I found numerous omissions within the Classical music selections. Plenty of Tchaikovsky, but no Gliere. One track of Glinka. One track of Borodin. Plenty of Ravel and Debussy, but no MacDowell or Griffis, their American impressionist counterparts. No Boulez (well, nobody actually listens to Boulez). One track of Berio. No Varese. One track of Penderecki. No Lutoslawski. No Stockhausen. One album of John Cage's piano music (that one was a surprise). Only one title by Janacek (anybody see "The Unbearable Lightness of Being"?). Only two works by Bruckner. Plenty of Vivaldi, but no Corelli. A couple of tracks by John Adams, but nothing by Philip Glass or Steve Reich (the latter two having had quite a bit of crossover success in the non-virtual world). OK, I could go on all day. Time to stop.

There are other oddities in the Classical genre section as well. I can buy the third movement of Beethoven's Piano Concerto no. 2 as performed by Artur Rubenstein (I have him on LP), but not the first and second. If I want the whole work, I have to buy the whole album which also contains Brahms's Piano Concerto no. 1. Both are beautiful works, but Steve Jobs specifically said I shouldn't have to buy the whole album from his online music store. I don't know of many serious Classical music listeners who would buy just one movement of a complete work.

A Reflection

Perhaps you've never heard of some of the composers who I mention above. They would be discussed in any comprehensive music literature class (or at least, should be). I guess that's part of my problem. This store is intended for the U.S. market and Americans are rather illiterate when it comes to art music, or as we relegate the entire category: "Classical" music. I can't blame the American public, but I find Apple's online store akin to an online art store which offers works of Andy Warhol and Leroy Nieman but nothing of Jackson Pollock or Alexander Calder. On the other hand, perhaps I should congratulate Steve Jobs for being so in tune with American culture.

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

Frequently Asked Questions

Have a question? The Help Desk just may have an answer to you. Check out their page to help people with questions/problems arising out of the fact that dialup access is going away <u>8/31/03</u>.



They also have a list of <u>Top Ten Frequently Asked Questions</u> which many will find helpful. Right now the most frequently asked question is "What's my EUID?"

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Resource Management on a Budget: Part II*

An Open Source Software Solution: Maintenance, Function and Support.

By Shannon Eric Peevey, UNT Central Web Support

As the presence of Open Source software begins to be felt on desktops around the world, I

am finding the people are asking me for more information about this phenomenon. As I have mentioned in past articles, I have been given the privilege to present at the Visual Resource Association Conference in Houston, TX. This incredible opportunity included a chance to see Houston from on top of the Warwick Hotel, as well as, spend time eating great food in the "Chinatown" district. It also gave me a chance to see how you, the end-users, feel about Open Source and the licensing issues involved in implementation of an Open Source solution. Since you were there for me when I was preparing for this presentation, I thought that it would only be fitting that I present to you the final version of the presentation as it was given on April 12, 2003. Thank you for your input and your help!

The Presentation

As a member of Central Web Support at the University of North Texas, I am responsible for maintaining a web presence for the fourth largest university in the State of Texas. With over 29,000 students, our web servers play an important role in communicating with our students, and also act as our first-point-of-contact for prospective students throughout the world. These web servers are attacked, beaten, and bloodied by over 45 million hits a month, and yet, it is not uncommon for them to remain up for almost 150 days. How is this possible? Through research, we have found that server software offered by the Open Source community is by far the most stable and secure server software available. Through openness, and sheer user base, these products are becoming the standards for computing, and not just a "fad" that will soon go away.

Why, then, is Open Source software maligned by proprietary software corporations?

First, Open Source software represents a credible threat to their business infrastructure. If the Apache web server holds 64% of the web server installations on the internet, how can Microsoft or Sun Microsystems market their own web servers? And, why should corporations pay for a web server that does not have the stability and security of the industry standard Apache? Second, the business model of Open Source software does not make sense to most private corporations. How can random groups of people, working for free, create mission critical applications that compete with high-dollar proprietary software? Open

Source developers have shown that it's not only possible, but some private corporations are finding that the Open Source business model is actually very lucrative. Finally, the idea of Open Source removes competition. If everyone has access to the source code of an application, there is no way to hinder other developers from using that code in their own products. Hence, the process of applying all improvements to all applications would eventually be seen as redundant, and only one application would emerge as the standard.

What does this mean for us?

This means that Visual Resource managers have the capabilities to create Open Source applications that can take the place of high-dollar applications, such as House of Images, Argus Collection Management System, and even, PastPerfect. How can we do this? First, we need to become familiar with the "component" tools that I am going to introduce to you today, their role, capabilities and weaknesses. Second, we need to decide which management area would most benefit from the introduction of an Open Source variant, and third, we need to call on developers from around the world, who are willing to bring their particular expertise to our project. Let me show you how...

Let's Introduce our "component" tools

Now, because of the enormous volume of relevant Open Source software and restrictions on time, I feel that it would be most beneficial for you, if I were to focus our discussion on the Open Source applications that we are using as "component" tools for our dynamic content web hosting services at the University of North Texas. These tools include, but are not limited to, the GNU/Linux operating system, the Apache web server, the PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor, and the MySQL database server. Through a general overview of each of these "component" tools, I hope to raise your awareness about Open Source software, and also, open your eyes to the possibilities associated with mixing these tools in different combinations.

First of all, the importance of choosing a server operating system cannot be overstated. If you choose an operating system that is not available for free, it is likely that most of the software available to run on this operating system will be expensive, or at the very least, cost-based. This became the main motivation for our department to move off of Sun Solaris, and make the move to a newer variant of Unix, most commonly referred to as Linux, or perhaps more appropriately, Gnu/Linux.

Linux, as an operating system, is perhaps better understood as the marriage of Gnu software, the software created and maintained by the developers of the Free Software Foundation, and the Linux kernel, which was created under the direction of Linus Torvalds, at the University of Helsinki, Finland. It is this marriage of Linux kernel and third-party software that has led to the development of a the wide array of different "distributions" of Linux. These distributions, such as Red Hat or Debian, are really only a compilation of third-party software "wrapped" around the linux kernel. For our purposes, as managers of large, sustained collections, I would suggest using one of the major distributions, preferably either, Red Hat or Debian.

Red Hat Linux is a fairly mature Linux distribution with good documentation and a good feebased customer support infrastructure. It is the standard distribution for many institutions, and also has a good working relationship with many large commercial corporations, such as Oracle, Sun, and Macromedia. These relationships, as well as, the popularity of this distribution make it very easy to find software that is easily configured to work with the directory structure, the package manager, and the libraries that are shipped with Red Hat.

Debian, or more appropriately Debian GNU/Linux, is one of the last true open source Linux

distributions. The development community, made up of over 900 developers, has made a "Social Contract" with the open source community promising to keep Debian 100% free, and will not allow any component that is not 100% free and open sourced to be added to the distribution. (Debian) They have also striven to have a stable, error-free linux distribution, which means that Debian does not contain the newest versions of third-party applications or kernel, but relies on versions that have been tried and tested.

The second most important piece of software in our web design scheme is the database system. There are many top quality database servers available for use as resource storage tools. When deciding on a database system, especially in a web environment, it is always better to choose a database server. This is because a database server is always waiting for connections from clients, and the operating system doesn't have to start the program every time a call is made to the database, as it would when using a desktop database system such as Microsoft Access. Under heavy load, the latter can cause severe strain on the server hardware. It is also important to find out which operating systems a database server will support. Most database servers do, in fact, support multiple operating systems and only differ in the complexity of administration and feature support.

With over four million installations throughout the world, the MySQL database is currently the world's most popular Open Source database server. (Kirkpatrick) It is stable, robust, and FAST. Under rigorous testing, MySQL was found to surpass all other database systems in speed, and was equal to Oracle in stability. (Dyck) The ease of administration and number of clients make this database server a key competitor.

MySQL does have some shortcomings, though, such as:

- doesn't support some newer SQL standard features.
- doesn't support sub-selects.
- Doesn't have an easy way to store and create stored procedures.

Third, we have found that the Apache web server is the best choice for serving web server content. Apache has been the industry standard since 1995, and currently runs 64% of all sites on the internet. (Netcraft) Apache is not the fastest, nor the most powerful web server available, but is extremely configurable, extremely stable, and its modular architecture and mature API make it very easy to program third-party modules. It is this modular design which allows Apache to support such a large number of programming languages, and allows any number of tools to be mixed and matched to create an installation that is uniquely perfect for your installation. Also, with the release of Apache 2, we have the introduction of Multi-Processing Modules, which will allow Apache to proliferate across even more platforms. (Apache)

Finally, the PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor, or PHP, programming language has become one of the most prolific web programming languages with usage in over 10,500,000 domains. (PHP) Its object oriented capabilities, and large user base have helped this relatively young language mature very quickly. Now, with the release of "The PHP Extension and Application Repository", or PEAR, PHP has a centralized location for obtaining reusable components to help speed the creation process. (PEAR) PHP also has access to a great many image libraries, such as ImageMagick and GD, (now bundled with the newest versions of PHP), which will allow you to create and manipulate images on the fly. I think that given the huge user base, and the amount of development that is currently going on in PHP, we have much to look forward too.

At this point...

It is important for us to step back and look at the proprietary tools that are being used in our jobs. Many of these tools, such as, Calm2000 and House of Images, cost thousands of dollars, and some even cost tens of thousands of dollars, such as Argus Collection Management System and Multi MIMSY 2000. When we take a step back and look at these tools, we can see that they are only database back-ends with a Graphical User Interface, or GUI, front-end. If we look at the tools that we have just covered, we can see that we have, 1) a free database back-end, and 2) a free language with which to create the GUI front-end. Now, if we wanted serve these files across the local area network, we could also choose, instead of PHP, a different front-end language such as QT, TCL/TK, Perl, Java, Python, or any number of languages that would allow us to connect to a central database that is located on the network. If we chose to create an Intranet web site, then we could use a Linux server, running Apache and use Perl, PHP, Ruby, Python for the GUI, or even install Jakarta, and create applications using Java. All of these tools have the same capabilities as the expensive products that you are now using.

So, you may ask, how does one start an open source project...

After deciding on the projects needs and capabilities, it is time to start calling on developers to work on our Open Source application. Obviously, librarians and information systems designers will be our greatest contributors, but you may be surprised that other programmers will find this application interesting as well, and will spend the time to add a module or two to the application. It is also important to set the development site at a single location, use versioning tools to keep the development from becoming confused, and have an administrative structure that will allow us to restrict write access to the source code. You may also be surprised that many internet sites actually specialize in hosting Open Source development projects, and which already have the tools and infrastructure necessary to maintain a project in place. One site, which Mr. Rorissa mentioned, is SourceForge.net. This site is run by the Open Source Development Network, and offers free access to all of its development tools and infrastructure to all Open Source projects. (OSDN) With over 60,000 projects currently hosted on SourceForge.net, it is a very popular site for seekers of Open Source software, and would be a great place to host and advertise our applications to the general public. Using the site template that they offer project coordinators, we can post news, application bugs and wishes, create mailing lists, and track version changes.

In conclusion, I feel that it is important for Visual Resource managers to respond to the current economic situation with bravery and integrity. They must look to the future, and know that their decisions today will safeguard their libraries in the future. They must realize that good software does not always mean expensive software, and they must know that "free" software, does not always mean "cheap" software. It is with this in mind, that I propose to you that Open Source software and its ideals are the place that we should be. Librarians are an untapped resource for Open Source, and we have so much to offer. With our knowledge, we can begin to put Open Source tools to use, and create competitive applications that would be available for free to all. Even if it only using Apache and PHP to serve your content on the world wide web, deciding to run Linux and GIMP on all of your desktop machines for image manipulation, or collaborating on and implementing a newer, better Open Source image management system, Open Source applications can help save you money, while you remain on the "cutting edge". As Richard Stallman, founder of the Gnu Project, is fond of saying, "Free software is not free, as in beer, but as in Freedom".

Resources

 Open Source Development Network. "SourceForge.net: A1. About SourceForge.net". <u>http://sourceforge.net/docman/display_doc.php?docid=6025&group_id=1</u>

- PHP: PHP Usage Stats <u>http://www.php.net/usage.php</u>
- Security Space Apache Module Report http://www.securityspace.com/s_survey/data/man.200303/apachemods.html
- Debian Social Contract http://www.debian.org/social_contract
- Dyck, Timothy. "Server Databases Clash" <u>http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,3959,293,00.asp</u>
- Kirkpatrick, David. "Can an Open-Source Database Threaten Microsoft, Oracle, and IBM?" <u>http://www.fortune.com/fortune/fastforward/0,15704,431733,00.html</u>
- The PHP Extension and Application Repository http://pear.php.net/
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- Apache on Windows Struggling http://news.netcraft.com/archives/2003/02/25/apache_on_windows_struggling.html
- Netcraft servers with the longest uptimes <u>http://uptime.netcraft.com/up/today/top.avg.html</u>
- The Internet Operating System Counter. Hans U. Zoebelein http://leb.net/hzo/ioscount/
- University of Helsinki Department of Computer Science http://www.cs.helsinki.fi/
- Gnu Project and Free Software Foundation http://www.gnu.org/
- The Linux Kernel Archives http://www.kernel.org/
- Debian GNU/Linux http://www.debian.org/social_contract
- Red Hat Linux <u>http://www.redhat.com</u>

* You can read Part I here.

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Short Courses

By Claudia Lynch, Benchmarks Online Editor

The Spring Short Courses are over. Please consult the <u>Short Courses</u> page to see the course descriptions and samples of courses that will most likely be taught this summer.

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, <u>lynch@unt.edu</u>).

Especially for Faculty and Staff Members

In addition to the <u>ACS Short Courses</u>, which are available to students, faculty and staff, staff and faculty members can take courses offered through the <u>Human Resources</u> Department, the <u>Center for Distributed Learning</u>, and the UNT Libraries' <u>Multimedia Development Lab</u>. Additionally, the <u>Center</u> for Continuing Education and Conference Management offers a variety of courses to both UNT and the general community, usually for a small fee.

GroupWise Training

GroupWise 6 classes are over for the semester. Check here to see if new ones have been announced: http://cwn.unt.edu/basicgroupwise.

If would like to have a Basic GroupWise seminar for your area, please contact Jason Gutierrez, Campus Wide Networks, <u>jasong@unt.edu</u>.

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 <u>http://www.unt.edu/cdl/training_events/index.htm</u> 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 <u>Center for Distributed Learning</u> Website.

Technical Training

Technical Training for campus network managers is available, from time to time, through the <u>Campus-Wide Networks</u> 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 <u>http://www.pware.com/index.cfm</u>.

Alternate Forms of Training

Many of the <u>General Access Labs</u> around campus have tutorials installed on their computers. For example, the College of Education recently acquired some Macromedia Tutorials for Dreamweaver 4.0, Flash 5.0 and Fireworks 4.0.

The <u>Training</u> Web site has all sorts of information about alternate forms of training. Computer Based Training (CBT) is one of the alternatives offered. Of particular interest are courses available via SkillSoft/SmartForce. See <u>http://www.unt.edu/smartforce/</u> for more information.

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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; Donna Asher, Administrative Affairs; Craig Berry, School of Visual Arts; Lou Ann Bradley, Communications Planning Group; Cengiz Capan, College of Business and GALC; Bobby Carter, UNT Health Science Center; Matt Creel, Student Government Association; Christy Crutsinger, Faculty Senate; Jim Curry, Academic Administration; Don Grose, Libraries and University Planning Council; Joneel Harris, EIS Planning Group; Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, Student Computing Planning Group; Tom Jacob, College of Arts and Sciences; Abraham John, Student Development; Jenny Jopling, Instruction Planning Group; Armin Mikler, Research Planning Group; Kenn Moffitt, Standards and Cooperation Program Group; Ramu Muthiah, School of Community Services; Jon Nelson, College of Music; Robert Nimocks, Director, Information Technology, UNTHSC; John Price, UNT System Center; Philip Turner, School of Library and Information Science and University Planning Council (Chair, IRC); VACANT, Graduate Student Council; VACANT, Staff Council; VACANT, University Planning Council; Virginia Wheeless, Chancellor, for Planning; Carolyn Whitlock, Finance and Business Affairs; IRC Ex-officio Nonvoting Members: Jim Curry, Microcomputer Maintenance and Classroom Support Services; Richard Harris, Computing Center and University Planning Council; Coy Hoggard, Computing Center/Administrative; Judy Hunter, GALMAC; Maurice Leatherbury, Computing Center/Academic; Doug Mains, UNT Health Science Center; Patrick Pluscht, Center for Distributed Learning; Sue Ellen Richey, Computing Center (Recording Secretary); Ken Sedgley, Telecommunications.

March 11, 2003

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: PHILIP TURNER, Chair, BRIDGETTE CARTER (for DONNA ASHER), PAUL HONS (for JUDITH ADKISON), CAROLYN WHITLOCK, ELIZABETH HINKLE-TURNER, RAMU MUTHIAH, KENN MOFFITT, RICHARD HARRIS (for JONEEL HARRIS), LYNETTE KIMBLE (for VIRGINIA WHEELESS), JENNY JOPLING NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: PATRICK PLUSCHT, JUDY HUNTER, JOE ADAMO, MAURICE LEATHERBURY, SUE ELLEN RICHEY (Recording Secretary) MEMBERS ABSENT: DUNCAN ENGLER, LOU ANN BRADLEY, DON GROSE, COY HOGGARD, CRAIG BERRY, JON NELSON, CENGIZ CAPAN, JOHN PRICE, JIM CURRY, DOUG MAINS, ROBERT NIMOCKS, CHRISTY CRUTSINGER, TOM JACOB, ARMIN MIKLER, BOBBY CARTER, ABRAHAM JOHN, DUNCAN ENGLER GUESTS: JENNIFER LAFLEUR

The minutes of the February 18, 2003, were not approved since there was not a quorum present.

Instruction Program Group

Jenny Jopling reported that the Instruction Program Group has not met, but announced that the SkillSoft tutorials for approximately 200 courses are now available on the server. CD versions are also available. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner added that her article in the last issue of *Benchmarks* tells all about these new tutorials.

Information Resources Steering Committee

The Chair announced that the Information Resources Steering Committee has not met since the last IRC meeting, but he is pursuing the status of the Web Publishing Policy.

Distributed Computing Support Management Team

Maurice Leatherbury reported that the Distributed Computing Support Management Team met at the Research Park two weeks ago where they heard a report from Joneel Harris on the progress of the EIS Project and enjoyed a tour of the facility. Last Friday, the DCSMT met and talked about security and responsibilities of network managers to keep good security on their systems, especially in light of the Univ. of Texas at Austin incident.

EIS Planning Group

Richard Harris reported for the EIS Planning Group that the project is progressing as planned.

Standards and Policy Planning Group

Kenn Moffitt reported for the Standards and Policy Planning Group that they plan a meeting soon, because they have several issues to address.

Student Computing Planning Group

Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner reported that the Student Computing Planning Group has not met while she was on maternity leave, but plans to begin meeting to work on the Student Computing Survey that they are developing. She stated that they have a server in place to use in conducting the survey.

Other Business

Patrick Pluscht announced that UNT received the Annual Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Texas Distance Learning Association. Gloria Meraz, Director of Communications for the Texas Library Association spoke at that event on the subject of the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund. Patrick explained that there is pending legislation that would remove Health Science Centers and Libraries from eligibility for TIF grants. He encouraged members to contact their legislators regarding this bill.

Patrick also announced that the CCCCD videoconference site at Preston Ridge has been taken offline due to lack of use. In addition, he announced that there will be a University Forum on "Observing and Evaluating Instruction: Online and Face-To-Face What are the Challenges?" on March 25, 2:30-4:00 pm in Matthews Hall, Room 112. There will also be a Critical Challenges in Distance Education Satellite Program called "Cheating and Plagiarism Using the Internet" on April 3, 1:30-3:00 pm in Chilton Hall, Room 245. Patrick shared a letter to the NT Daily Editor from a mother who was expressing her gratitude for the on-line courses available to her and stating her desire for additional on-line course development, especially in the core curriculum.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 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. There was no meeting in December. All meetings of the IRC, its program

groups, and other committees, are open to all faculty, staff, and students.

Page One **Campus** Computing News Going, Going, Gone . . . Summer Hours new titles: **Protecting Your** EagleMail Account from **Spam Digital Printing** at UNT **New Checkin** Lab Software Makes its Debut this Summer Do you have something to tell Everyone? Today's Cartoon **RSS Matters** SAS Corner The Network Connection Link of the **Month** WWW@UNT.EDU **Short Courses IRC News** Staff Activities Subscribe to **Benchmarks** Online

Staff Activities

Transitions

The Computing Center's name has changed! We are now known as the "Computing and Information Technology Center." See "Campus Computing News" in this issue for details. Due to the change, the following people have

- Richard Harris was Associate Vice President for Computing and Communications Services and is now Associate Vice President for **Computing and Chief Technology Officer.**
- Maurice Leathebury was Senior Director of Academic Computing and Assistant to the Associate Vice President for Computing and Communications Services and is now Executive Director of Information Technology and Academic Computing.
- Coy Hoggard was Senior Director of Administrative Computing and is now Executive Director of Administrative Information Systems.
- Steve Minnis was Director of Mainframe Technical Services and is now **Director of Enterprise Systems Technical Services.**
- Joe Adamo was Director of Network and Communications Services and is now Director of Communications Services.
- Allen Bradley was Campus-wide Network Systems Manager and is now Manager of Network Computing Services.

The following are new employees:

- Mitch Smith, Computer Support Specialist, Administrative Computing, EIS Project.
- Steve Vrbka, Programmer, Administrative Computing, Payroll/Personnel Data Systems.

Awards, Recognition, Publications

Spring Graduates

We are proud to recognize the achievements of the following employees:

- Matinka Dobreva, ACS GAL employee graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Business Computer Information Systems.
- Debasish (Dave) Mukherjee, Programmer Analyst on EIS Project, received a Ph.D. in Information Science.

• Samantha (Sam) Moss, Computing and Information Technology Center Administration Administrative Assistant, received a B.F.A. in Drawing and Painting and a B.A. in English with a concentration in Literature.

Computing and Information Technology Center staff members were recognized at the President's Staff Sack Lunch May 8.

- Chris Cofer, UNIX System Administrator, received an "Outstanding staff" award.
- According to the May 16 issue of *inhouse@unt*, a new feature of the staff sack lunch event beginning with the May 8 meeting, is that a Soaring Eagle is chosen from a drawing to be honored. The name of **Alana Skoric**, programmer/analyst for EIS Application Infrastructure, was drawn. A book she selects from a pre-approved list will be donated to the UNT library in her name.

Ken Sedgley, Telecommunications Manager, was <u>profiled</u> in "Ken Sedgley: Opening lines of communication" that appeared in the May 16 issue of *inHouse@unt*.

Student Computing Services Manager, **Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner**'s commissioned work, *Finish Line*, for video, electronics, trumpet, and organ to be featured at the International Trumpet Guild annual conference May 22 at Texas Christian University. *Finish Line* will also be performed by the Mid-American Contemporary Music Ensemble at Bowling Green State University, Ohio in July at the Feminist Theory and Music annual conference where she will also present the paper, "Hear Me Now: the implication and significance of the female composer's voice as sound source in her electroacoustic music".

The following people were recognized as Soaring Eagles in the May/June 2003 issue of the *Human Resources Newsletter*:

- Shannon Leach, Production Control Specialist, was thanked for working on a Spring Break weekend to process reports so that payroll would run smoothly.
- JoAnn Luksich, Data Entry Coordinator, was praised being such a great resource.

Howard Shaw, Student Records Data Systems Programmer, was recognized for his 15 years of service to UNT in the May 2, 2003 issue of *InHouse@unt*.

EIS News and Events

Check out the EIS <u>Homepage</u> for news and other information regarding the EIS Project. On the lighter side, many will appreciate the EIS Project Team Humor Page: <u>http://www.unt.edu/eis/Presentations/eis_humor.htm</u>

The **EIS Project Management Team** invites you to the Research Park, E-Wing second floor, for an overview and status update regarding the UNT System implementation of PeopleSoft for Finance, Human Resources, Contributor Relations, and Student Administration.

Presentations will be given at 1:30--2:30 PM, each Thursday on these remaining days in May:

May 22, 2003 May 29, 2003

Please RSVP to Leah Knack at <u>knack@unt.edu</u> with the session you would like to attend.

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What's in a Name?

The Computing Center Name Change

By Dr. Maurice Leatherbury, Senior Director of Academic Computing

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose By any other name would smell as sweet." -Romeo and Juliet. Act ii. Sc. 2.

The name "Computing Center" at UNT is a venerable one, dating back to at least 1969^{*}, so it should come as no surprise that like the University itself, the Computing Center has seen fit to change its name - we're now the "Computing and Information Technology Center." Several convergent factors led us to adopt the new name:

- "Information Technology" has become the most widely-used term in academic institutions as well as in the corporate world to refer to the organization on campus that provides computing and communications services of various types. Here's some regional examples:
 - University of Texas at Austin Information Technology Services
 - Texas A&M University Computing and Information Services
 - University of Houston Information Technology
 - Texas Tech University Information Technology Division
 - University of Texas at San Antonio Office of Information Technology
 - University of Texas at Arlington Office of Information Technology
 - Southern Methodist University Information Technology Services
- · About three years ago, the Computing Center assumed responsibility for the telecommunications department on campus, the department that provides voice communication via the phone system on campus. The term "computing center" didn't reflect that new responsibility.
- Anticipating a move of the Computing Center to the Research Park, we wanted a new name to identify our new location as well as our modern mission and role on campus. While it will be some time before funds can be found to effect a relocation of the CITC, the new name does better define our scope and responsibility.

The Computing and Information Technology Center name is effective immediately, so when you call us you'll hear that name in the greeting of the person who answers the phone (although in all honesty it'll take some time before we're used to "CITC" instead of "Computing Center." We've changed our logo and our Web site to reflect the new name and will be working to identify and change all the references to the "Computing Center" on UNT's Web site over the next several months.

Concomitant with the organization's name change are changes to the titles of the senior managers and some middle managers of the CITC. Those changes are:

New Title	Old Title	Person in the Position
Associate Vice President for Computing and Chief Technology Officer	Associate Vice President for Computing and Communications Services	Richard Harris
Executive Director of Information Technology and Academic Computing	Senior Director of Academic Computing and Assistant to the Associate Vice President for Computing and Communications Services	Maurice Leathebury
Executive Director of Administrative Information Systems	Senior Director of Administrative Computing	Coy Hoggard
Director of Enterprise Systems Technical Services	Director of Mainframe Technical Services	Steve Minnis
Director of Communications Services	Director of Network and Communications Services	Joe Adamo
Manager of Network Computing Services	Campus-wide Network Systems Manager	Allen Bradley

So with apologies to Will Shakespeare, I'll close with this adaptation:

"What's in a name? That which we call a computing center By any other name would process information as sweet."

* A little Computing Center History:

- 1964 -- IBM 1440 purchased to perform administrative data processing. Richard Harris appointed Director of Computer Systems. Jerry Waldon appointed Associate Director of Academic Computing and Coy Hoggard hired to be Associate Director of Data Processing. Harris, Hoggard and the IBM 1440 were housed in the basement of the Administration Building.
- 1969 -- Computing personnel consisted of Richard Harris, Director of Computer Systems; Jerry Waldon, Associate Director of Academic Computing, who supervised one secretary/data entry operator and several part time people; Coy Hoggard, Associate Director of Data Processing, who supervised one programmer/analyst, one programmer, one computer operator, one keypunch supervisor, and three keypunch operators. The total operating budget for the Computing Center was \$163,738.

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Going, Going, Gone ...

By Claudia Lynch, Benchmarks Online Editor

Don't forget that a number of long-time services are being terminated. Here is the list, by date:

- May 31, 2003 Academic Mainframe Services will be terminated for individual account holders. See "<u>Academic Mainframe Services to be</u> <u>Terminated</u>" for further details.
- August 31, 2003 Usenet Newsgroup Services to be Discontinued. See "This Just In . . ." for more information.
- August 31, 2003 Computing Center to Discontinue Dialup Network Services. Details are available in last month's "<u>Campus Computing News</u>" article.

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Summer Hours

By <u>Claudia Lynch</u>, Benchmarks Online Editor

Following are the hours for Computing and Information Technology Centermanaged facilities for the summer, including May mini-mester. All staff offices will be closed Friday, July 4. May Mini-mester runs from May 12-May 28; Summer I is from June 2 to July 3; Summer II is from July 7-August 8. The fall semester starts August 25.

The <u>Helpdesk</u>, ACS General Access Lab and Mainframe Print Services will maintain the following hours during this period.

- **Print Services** will maintain it's normal hours (6 a.m. 2 a.m. M-F, 8 a.m. Midnight Saturday).
- The **Helpdesk** will maintain its regular schedule: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.,-Midnight; Friday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. -5 p.m. The actual office (<u>Information Sciences Building</u>, Room 119) closes each weekday evening at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. Phone/email support is available only during the remaining scheduled hours.

• The ACS General Access Lab (<u>ISB 110</u>) :

May 12 - May 28

Monday - Thursday - Open 9:00 am - 9:45 pm Friday - Open 9:00 am - 8:45 pm Saturday - Open 10:00 am - 6 pm Sunday - Open 1:00 pm - 9:45 pm

Summer Inter-Session, May 29 - 31

May 29 (Thursday) - Open 9:00 am - 4:45 pm May 30 (Friday) - Open 9:00 am - 4:45 pm May 31 (Saturday) - Open 10:00 am - 4:45 pm

Summer I and II, June 1 - August 7

Monday - Thursday - Open 9:00 am - 9:45 pm Friday - Open 9:00 am - 8:45 pm Saturday - Open 10:00 am - 8:45 pm Sunday - Open 1:00 pm - 9:45 pm

August 8 (Friday) - Open 9:00 am - 4:45 pm August 9 (Saturday) - Open 10:00 am - 4:45 pm

July 4, August 10 - Closed

August Intersession, August 11 - 23

Monday - Friday - Open 9:00 am - 4:45 pm

Saturday, Sunday, Closed

Monday August 25 - Resume regular Fall/Spring semester hours.

Hours for Other Campus Facilities

The University is officially closed for Independence Day - Friday, July 4.

General Access Labs

• WILLIS:

May 11 - May 28 Sunday: Open 1 p.m. - 10 p.m. Monday - Thursday: Open 7:30 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday: Open 7:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Saturday: Open 9:00 a.m. - 9 p.m.

May 29 - June 1

Thursday, May 29: Close at 5:50 p.m. Friday, May 30: Open 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, May 31: Open 9:00 a.m. - 5:50 p.m. Sunday, June 1: Open 1 p.m., resume 24 hour schedule.

July 4 - Closed

• <u>SLIS</u>:

May 12 - June 1

Monday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday: **Closed** Sunday: **Closed**

June 2 - August 8

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 11 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. Sunday: Noon - 10 p.m. July 4, August 9 - 19 - **Closed**

• <u>MUSIC</u>:

May 12 - May 28

Monday - Thursday: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: **Closed** Sunday: 12 noon - 8 p.m.

May 28 - June 1 - Closed June 2 - August 7 Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday: 1 - 9 p.m. July 4, August 8 - 24 - **Closed**

• <u>SCS</u>:

May 12 - August 8

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday: Noon - 10 p.m.

May 29-June1, July 4-6, August 9-24 - Closed

• SOVA:

May 12 - May 27

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: **Closed** Sunday: Noon - 8 p.m.

May 28 - June 1 - Closed June 2 - August 6

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday: Noon - 10 p.m. July 3-6, August 7 - 24 - **Closed**

• <u>COE</u>:

May 12 - August 8

Monday - Thursday: 7 a.m. - Midnight Friday: 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday: Noon - 8 p.m. Sunday: **Closed**

Early closings: August 8, 29 (close at 6 p.m.)

Closed: July 4, August 9 - 25, August 30 - September 1.

• <u>COBA</u>:

May 12 - August 7

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - Midnight Friday - Saturday: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Sunday: Noon - Midnight **August 8**: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed: July 4 - 6, August 9-22

• CAS: July 4, all labs Closed

<u>GAB 330</u>

May 12 - May 28

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: 12 noon - 8 p.m. Sunday: 12 noon - 10 p.m.

May 29 - June 1 - Closed June 2 - August 8

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - Midnight Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: Noon - 8 p.m. Sunday: Noon - Midnight July 4, August 9 - 24 - **Closed**

GAB 550

May 12 - June 1 - Closed

June 2 - August 8

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: **Closed** Sunday: **Closed** July 4, August 9 - 24 - **Closed**

Terrill Hall 220

May 12 - June 1 - Closed

June 2 - August 8

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: **Closed** Sunday: **Closed** July 4, August 9 - 24 - **Closed**

Wooten Hall 120

May 12 - May 28

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: **Closed** Sunday: Closed

May 29 - June 1 - Closed June 2 - August 8

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: **Closed** Sunday: **Closed** July 4-6, August 9 - 24 - **Closed**

• System Center Dallas (SCDGAL)

May 12 - August 8

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday: **Closed** July 4 - **Closed**

"Normal" hours for all of the labs can also be found at the General Access Lab <u>Website</u>.

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Protecting Your EagleMail Account from Spam

This is an edited version of a "Campus Computing" <u>article</u> in the January, 2002 issue of Benchmarks Online. - Ed.

By <u>Dr. Philip Baczewski</u>, Associate Director of Academic Computing and <u>Cliff Cozzolino</u>, Student E-mail System Analyst

Spam is the word most people use to describe those unsolicited mass E-mail

messages that show up in your mailbox. It is almost impossible these days to prevent all spam from being received, however, there are some steps you can take to guard your address from getting on spam mailing lists.

Most students don't realize that by law, the University is required to release your "directory information" to any external organization or individual who requests it. That information includes your E-mail address. Students can request that their directory information be withheld by completing a form (http://www.unt.edu/ferpa/PDF_files/withhold.pdf) and returning it to the registrar's office. According to the Registrar's office FERPA information page (http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/general/studentferpa.htm):

Directory information regarding the student will be provided to the public upon request unless student files a request in the Registrar's Office asking to be excluded from the directory or from any other requests for open directory information from outside entities. The request should be submitted prior to the 12th class day in the fall and spring terms, the 2nd class day of the May mini-mester, or the 4th class day in the summer terms. A request to withhold information may be submitted after the stated deadline for a term, but information may be released between the deadline and receipt of the request. The file of a student who has asked to be excluded from the directory information will remain flagged until the student requests that the flag be removed.

Directory information consists of a student's full name, address, E-mail address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, classification, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of athletic team members, dates of attendance, degrees, awards received, the last educational agency or institution attended previous to UNT, and photograph.

Students who are concerned about spam should request that their directory information be withheld. Other guidelines to follow are:

- don't subscribe to open mailing lists or post your address in chat groups;
- don't use your address to post to network news groups;
- don't include your address on a public Web page.

People who collect E-mail addresses to send spam look in all of the above places to find addresses. It's impossible to totally prevent spam, however, by following the guidelines above, your exposure to spam can be minimized.

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Digital Printing at UNT

By Jimmy Friend, Director of Printing Services

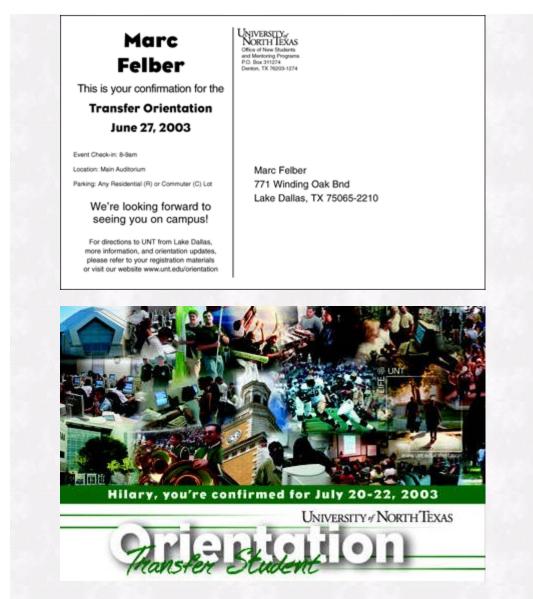
Printing Services has entered the era of digital printing, with the hp indigo

3000 press. The indigo is a six color (4-color process plus PMS 349 and PMS 655) state of the art press that creates an image directly from digital data. Unlike the traditional printing processes, there is a limited prepress process between the digital document file and the final print. No film, no imagesetter, no plates and little to no waste, means a reduced cost to the customer. Since it is fully digital, every image can be a new one so print quantity can be as few as one. Digital printing on the indigo also allows us the option of using variable data within a document.

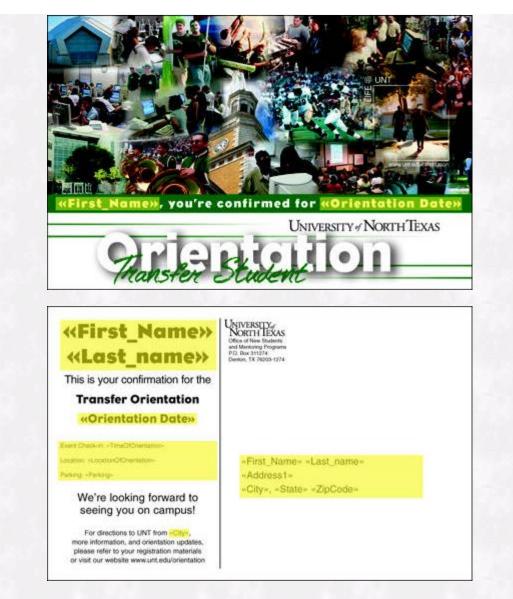


hp indigo 3000 press

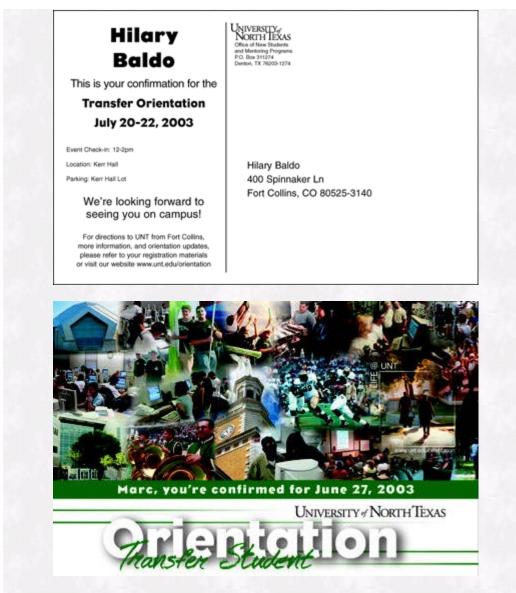
Variable data uses a database to produce printed documents that are customized to individuals. By using the applications QuarkXpress with the Xtension Yours Truly Designer to design the layout and a Microsoft Excel database, variable data can be accomplished on a number of different levels. On the most basic level, the design remains constant and the name and address change from piece to piece in black ink. In the most complex, every full color document has variable text and images, with variable lengths and sizes. Each finished piece will look as if it was printed specifically for one person, because it was.



The Xtension Yours Truly Designer provides the direct link between the variable elements in the database and the page layout. All variable elements (pieces of text or links to a graphic file) are placed within a database. Each column represents a different variable field in the document. The first row should be used to title the columns e.g. Lname, Fname, Address, City, State, Zip, Front Photo, Logo. Each row after the title row represents one unique document. Once the two are linked the variable fields are placed by menu selection, then typographical attributes can be assigned to the variable text.



After the two files are linked and all attributes are assigned, Quark and Yours Truly Designer allow you the unique feature of previewing your job. It will preview each entry in the database both text and graphics, this gives the opportunity to eliminate mistakes making sure that all variable elements are changing. After checking the document and making sure all data is changing the document is saved through Yours Truly Designer. This creates a jlt (j-layout file) document, a file that is in the native language of the indigo. This file is then transferred to the template folder on the press; the database file name is changed to match the jlt file. The database file then is transferred to the press hot folder, when the press reads the file it determines it is a data file, it then searches the template folder to find a jlt with the same name. The two files then combine on the press and are ready for printing.



For more information on digital printing and the variable data option contact, Printing Services at 565-2005.

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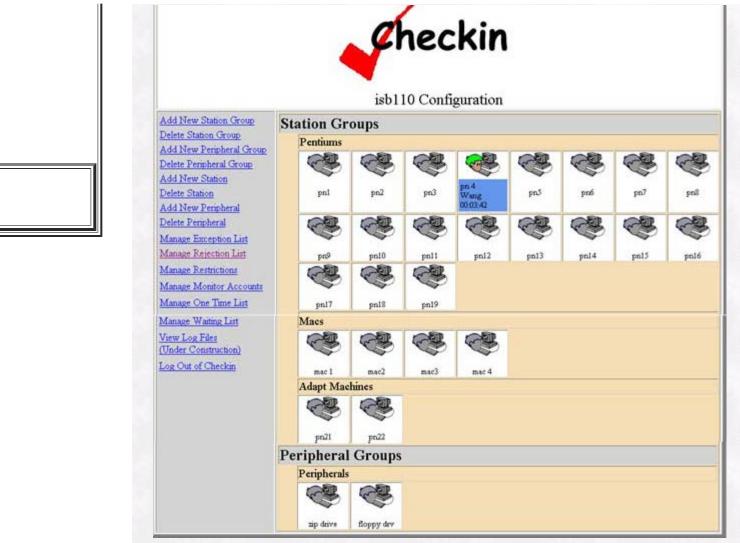
New Checkin Lab Software Makes its Debut this Summer

By Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, Student Computing Services Manager

F or the past year Academic Computing Services (ACS) has been developing the next incarnation of our Checkin software which has been used by our general access lab for almost ten years. The first production Checkin application (Checkin 2.0) was created in 1994 by then-ACS employee, Eriq Neale. This client-server based software was written in Delphi (client) and C (server) and housed on a Solaris server. The client could only be run on Wintel technology. Checkin 2.0 has served the UNT general access lab system well and a comparable commercial product has never been found to replace it.

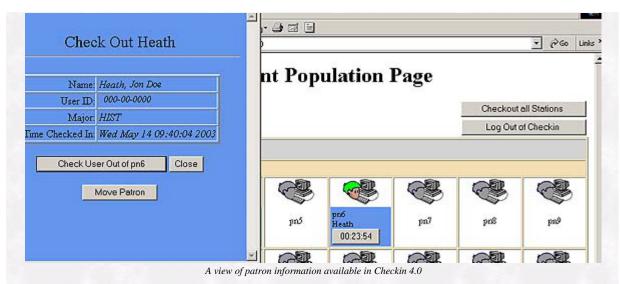
However, Checkin 2.0 in many incidences uses out-dated technologies and design concepts and it was decided to develop a new product taking advantage of newer ideas and features with a higher degree of flexibility and usability in the UNT computing environment. When I was hired as Student Computing Services Manager, one of the charges of my new job was to oversee the development of this new product. It has taken over three years and much experimentation, but by George, I think we've got it!

The source code and web interface (the lion's share of the work!) for Checkin 4.0 has been developed by Blake Broyles, 2002 UNT graduate (B.S., Computer Science with mathematics minor) under my and Dr. Philip Baczewski's supervision. I created the database, the interface artwork, and overall application design. As a team we are excited about being able to offer the UNT community this tool for computer lab management, design, and patron logging and tracking. With no client software, the application interface is entirely web-based and runs on Windows, Linux, and Macintosh platforms (using Internet Explorer or Netscape/Mozilla browser as appropriate). The application is infinitely flexible and expandable and is designed for use by the UNT general access lab system, other computer labs on campus, and additional areas as appropriate.



A view of the lab administration page showing some of the configuration options available

Source code for Checkin 4.0 was written in Perl 5 with the web interface constructed with HTML and Javascript. All database work is done and maintained using MySQL. The separate database and web components are housed on two load-balanced Linux servers. Checkin 4.0 allows lab managers to configure labs, monitor all lab activity in real-time, set restrictions on lab room and equipment use, add and reject particular lab patrons as appropriate, setup waiting lists for equipment use, and compile usage reports from lab activity log files. Lab monitors at the lab checkin stations can grant equipment access with the swipe of an authorized UNT card through a card reader and keep up-to-date on lab usage with a glance at the computer screen. Additionally, a student interface is being developed to allow students to check on lab equipment inventories and current usage to aide in their decisions about which lab to visit for their current computing needs.



The majority of these features were available in the older versions of Checkin but the new project has several advantages. Written and developed using freeware, the only expenses incurred were for the servers and the developer's wages. Perl and MySQL are so widely known throughout the administrative computing community that upkeep and further development expertise is readily available. Additionally, lab managers can now set up Checkin on whichever operating system with which they feel most comfortable because the application is web-based. For example there is no longer a need to have one Windows station to check in patrons to an all-Macintosh lab. With its ease of use and flexibility, it is anticipated that several of the departmental labs will now want to use Checkin to manage facilities and log activity and that implementation of the software will extend well beyond the thirteen-member general access lab system. In fact one of the most unusual beta-testers for Checkin 4.0 has been facilities management in the College of Music. Reservation and usage of the music practice room facilities has been done using the new software with the practice room coordinator configuring her "lab" to indicate room numbers and instruments available.

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	View Lo	g Files	
	Start Date: End Date:	04/01/2003 💌	
	Retrieve Logs	Close	

Lab managers can compile reports from the log files available via Checkin 4.0

The majority of the beta testing of Checkin 4.0 has been completed. Areas that need a few finishing touches include log retrieval, the student lab population web interface, and some aspects of the server architecture. Additionally, a formal manual for the software is in development for both lab managers and lab employees. Checkin 4.0 will become the official checkin software of the general access labs on July 7.

Anyone who thinks that Checkin 4.0 might be appropriate for their lab or department is welcome to contact me at <u>ehinkle@unt.edu</u>. You will be granted a test account and can work

with all lab administration tools available and offer comments and suggestions.

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Do you have something to tell *Everyone*?

By Claudia Lynch, Benchmarks Online Editor

GroupWise E-mail <u>spam</u> and complaints about it are becoming a problem again. There are periodic reminders sent out to 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 has appeared in numerous past issues 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 <u>service</u> for official communications between UNT and students.)

There's a rule for that!

If you want to decrease the amount of E-mail coming into your GroupWise mailbox, you can create GroupWise rules to move tagged E-mail to a folder for later browsing, reading, or deleting. If you are interested in filtering bulk E-mail, just follow the instructions provided at: <u>http://cwn.unt.edu/cwn/rules/spam_rule.html</u>

Please review the following policy as set out by the Vice Presidents and Provost in 1997. It can also be found <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

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. Today's Cartoon

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