Benchmarks

A green light to greatness.

UNT

Columns, November 2011

Network Connection

Link of the Month

Helpdesk FYI

ITC News

RSS Matters

Training

Staff Activities

Benchmarks - November, 2011

Campus Computing News

Help the Students Reach for the Clouds: EagleConnect in the UNT Classroom

By Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, Director - **Academic Computing Technical Service**

EagleConnect is the official UNT email service for students (and applicants and alumni) and email is an official form of communication between the University and students (Policy 18.5.7). As UNT continues to mean green, digital messages have become the norm for communicating with students rather than the exception primarily utilizing our EagleConnect email system and the Message Center at my.unt.edu.

Read more   BOOKMARK

Thanksgiving Break Hours

By Claudia Lynch, *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Thanksgiving and all the good things normally associated with it is almost here. Following are the hours for Computing and Information Technology Center-managed facilities during the Thanksgiving break. The University is officially closed Thursday, November 24, and Friday, November 25.

Read more   BOOKMARK

TODAY'S CARTOON

Click on the link above for an information age laugh.

By the Numbers

Remedy Tickets by Support Organization, 2010/2011

Support Organization	# Tickets Worked
Admin Desktop /Application Support	6119
UNT Libraries	4564
CITC Helpdesk	4419
College of Arts & Sciences	862
CITC Enterprise Systems Technical Svs	820
CITC Academic Computing & User Svs	770
College of Public Affairs & Community Svs	757
CITC CS Data Communication	505
College of Business	445
CLEAR	322
CITC CS Telecommunications	190
CITC AIS	145
CITC CS Collaboration Svs	14
CITC IT Security	13
College of Music	8
College of Engineering	7
College of Education	6
College of Information	5
College of Visual Arts & Design	5
UNT Dallas	5
UNT Health Science Ctr	3

Texas Academy of

Math & Sciences

Email us:

Have questions on content or technical
issues? Please contact us.
unt.uit@unt.edu

UNT System:

- **UNT Home**
- **UNT System**
- **UNT Dallas**
- **UNT Health Science Center**

Site last updated on April 22, 2016

Benchmarks

A green light to greatness.

UNT

Columns, November 2011

Home

Campus Computing News

Help the Students Reach for the Clouds: EagleConnect in the UNT Classroom

By Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, Director - **Academic Computing Technical Service**

EagleConnect is the official UNT email service for students (and applicants and alumni) and email is an official form of communication between the University and students (Policy 18.5.7). As UNT continues to mean green, digital messages have become the norm for communicating with students rather than the exception primarily utilizing our EagleConnect email system and the Message Center at my.unt.edu. The UNT Bulk Mail system, available to all faculty for e-mailing their classes, sends messages to students' EagleConnect accounts. In the latest communications survey administered, students indicated that the message types most important to them were messages from professors and registration and billing messages. Administrative units on campus continue to leverage the powerful tools available at UNT for digital communication and this opportunity exists also for faculty members specifically in EagleConnect. In fact, the tools and services available in EagleConnect provide much potential for creative and collaborative teaching and learning methods in the college classroom. This article will describe many of these features which can assist faculty in helping their students enter the "learning stratosphere."

Cloud Computing

Anyone casually browsing the latest IT news (or even just the business section of the newspaper) has encountered the term "cloud computing." For the one percent (not THAT one percent! This is another one percent!) who have *not*, basically "cloud computing" refers to digital applications and services being stored in a central location (server) rather than on a fixed desktop computer which are then accessed via either shared drives or folders or - more likely - via an internet browser interface. For some of us who are - ahem! - rather *advanced* in years, this probably sounds suspiciously like mainframe computing and "dumb terminals" and you would be correct in this assessment. However, instead of a tiny little screen with neon orange or green letters, you have all the bells and whistles, interactivity, and powerful features of today's browsers for your interface. Cloud computing is predicted to be the wave of the future primarily because it can save IT manpower resources and reduce service downtime. Instead of having to send armies of techs out in the field to touch individual machines with their individual issues, application problems are limited to a central location. Additionally, users can access their "virtual machine" anytime and anywhere there is a good internet connection and can simulate approximately the same computing experience on a variety of devices including desktops, laptops, tablet computers and mobile devices. This is the computing milieu that students will encounter in the post-graduation "real world" and faculty have the opportunity to provide them with skills for working in such an environment while here at UNT.

It has sometimes been fairly difficult to convince large portions of the UNT student body of the importance of regularly checking their EagleConnect email. Even though students are currently receiving a significant majority of communications vital to their UNT career success via EagleConnect, they continue to fail to note these messages and the result can be missed scholarship opportunities, lost registrations, and hours upon hours of standing in line waiting for service to correct issues that are of their own making. Another negative is the perceived onslaught of countless messages advertising events that while quite "nice" (ice cream socials, movie nights etc.) may be considered "spam" by many (but remember that one person's spam is another person's exciting social event so there!). Finally, students often think of email as so "their parents' Oldsmobile". It is "old-fashioned" and "everyone texts and tweets these days." These are acknowledged issues that IT personnel here address. However, while it might be great if one could have a session with one's major advisor via Twitter, various security and privacy laws as well as plain common-sense should tell one that is in not really optimal!

The "cold water in the face" reality of all this, however, is that UNT students *will* be entering a world full of email and that coveted job at - say - Hewlett Packard *will* require one to read and respond to it every day. Additionally, by ignoring EagleConnect, students are missing a variety of services that can greatly assist in their educational experience and also save them some money in terms of software applications and services that they do not need to

purchase because it is provided to them for free. These services exist in the "EagleConnect Cloud" - a powerful model of the digital reality they will face in the job marketplace and that is best mastered now while in college rather than stumbled upon ineffectively after the educational safety net has been pulled. The most important thing to note is that students will utilize a communications service that provide messages they value. Students value communications with their professors so using EagleConnect assists them in successful navigation of this service and its real world implications.
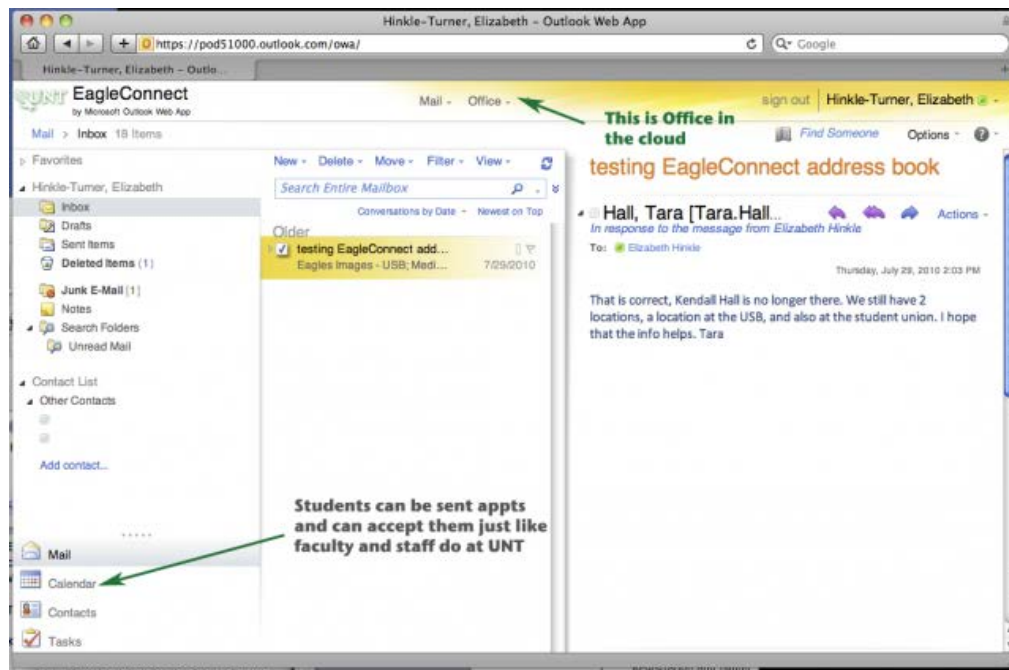
EagleConnect

First of all, faculty are strongly encouraged to get an EagleConnect account if they are alumni of UNT. EagleConnect is restricted to use by students, former students, and retirees of the university. All of the rest of us use UNT Exchange. If you *are* eligible for EagleConnect because you fit in one of the three categories for enrollment, getting the account is easy. If you login to https://ams.unt.edu click the mail link and you should see an option to request an EagleConnect account. The automated creation process will take 30 - 45 minutes to create your account and sync your enterprise password. When you next login to AMS the EagleConnect address (which is also your login name for the service) will be displayed (hat tip to Tom DeLozier). Having an EagleConnect account will allow you to experiment with the services your students enjoy and test them for potential usefulness in your classes. Faculty who are not former UNT students can request that their network managers ask appropriate EMDS personnel if they can have a test account or can refer to the summary of services below. Please also note that all the features described here work on all OS platforms and browsers.

Naturally, the first step in using EagleConnect as a teaching tool is using it to email students. The days of collecting index cards with a zillion different email addresses from students that then must be painstakingly entered into an address book are over! Faculty simply access all of their students' email addresses from one of two handy places - their UNT Exchange (Outlook) Address Book or their class rolls published in the Faculty section of the my.unt.edu portal service:
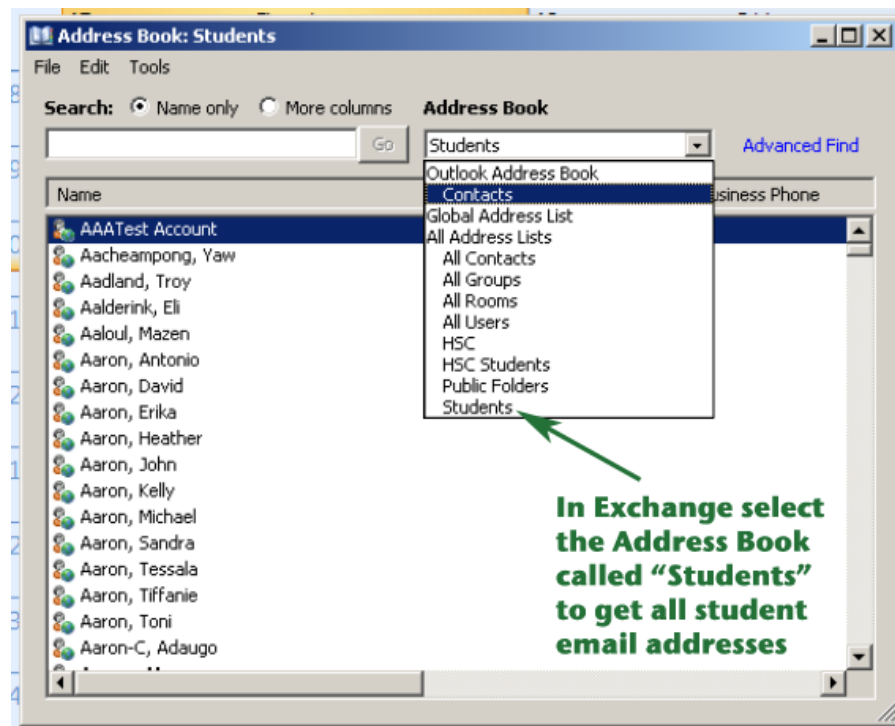

The Students address book is easily accessed in the Address Book tool of Outlook

Faculty should note that the basic layout and design of EagleConnect is remarkably like the UNT Outlook or Webmail application they use every day:
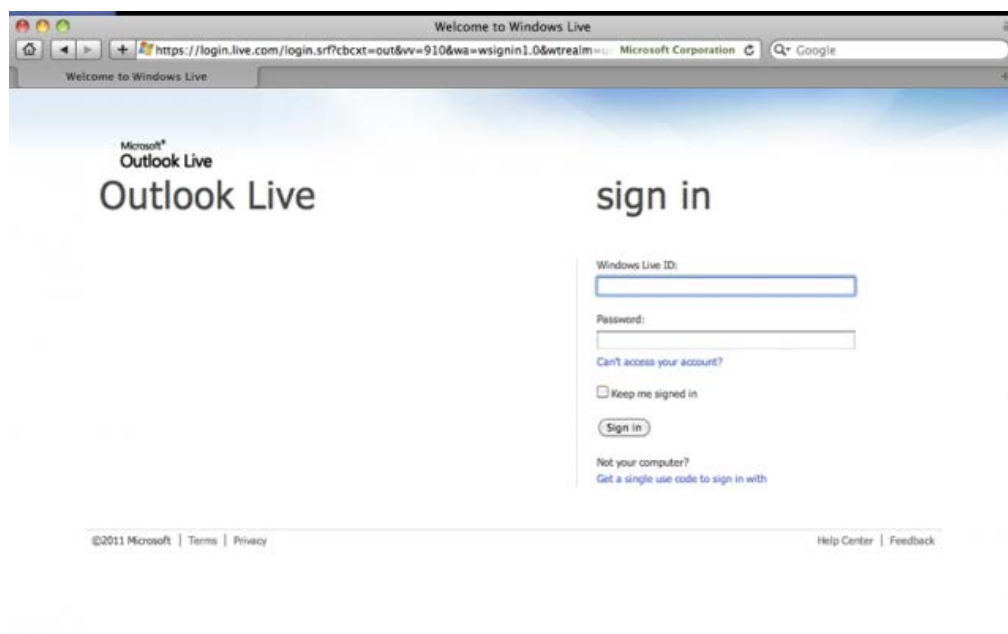
The EagleConnect email interface

Students login to this service and receive notices about EagleConnect features by going to eagleconnect.unt.edu:
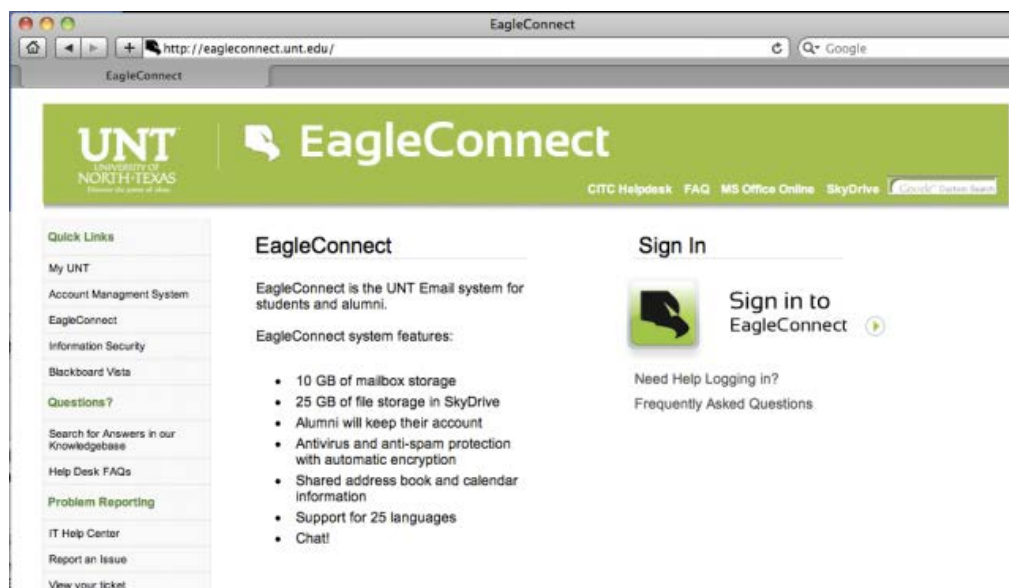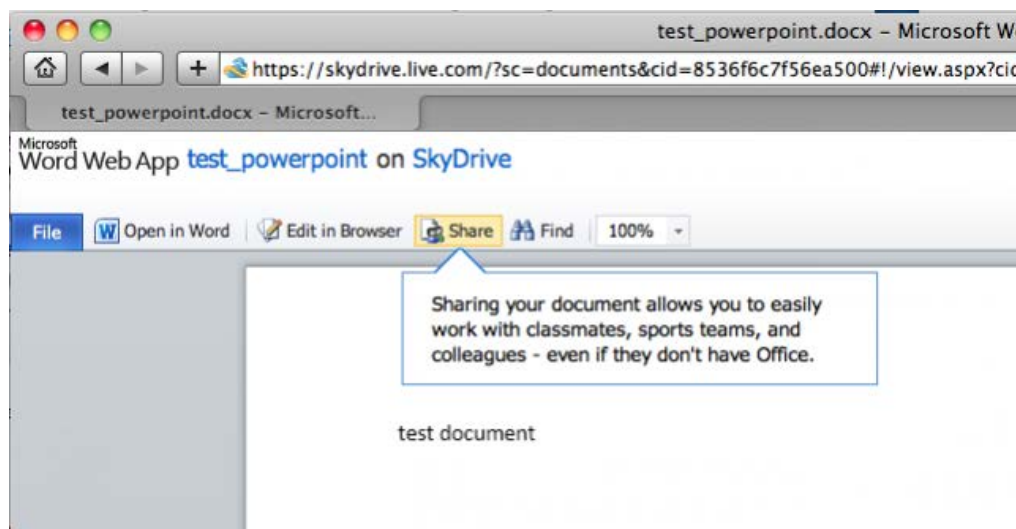

eagleconnect.unt.edu

From there they access EagleConnect with their "Windows Live ID" which is their email address and the password that they use to access all online services at UNT (their "EUID password"):

The login page for EagleConnect

A closer look at the screen shot of the EagleConnect interface above will reveal that students enjoy some features that UNT faculty and staff do NOT have in Outlook - most notably Office via the web ("in the cloud") and also 25 GB of collaborative and storage space on SkyDrive (very similar to Sharepoint in nature). These are the tools that can be particularly useful to professors with instruction especially if they are teaching a traditional course without a Blackboard online learning section. Office offered through EagleConnect is a powerful suite that actually in most circumstances mitigates students having to purchase Office separately entirely. (an article describing the Office feature of EagleConnect in detail is found here). Most importantly from a pedagogical perspective, documents created here (or on a student's machine and uploaded to here) and sent to SkyDrive can be worked on collaboratively by a group. This makes team work assignments proceed more smoothly and seamlessly and accurately simulates the same kind of collaborative digital environment that most students are going to encounter in the workforce. Professors are doing their students a great service by getting them used to these tools now:
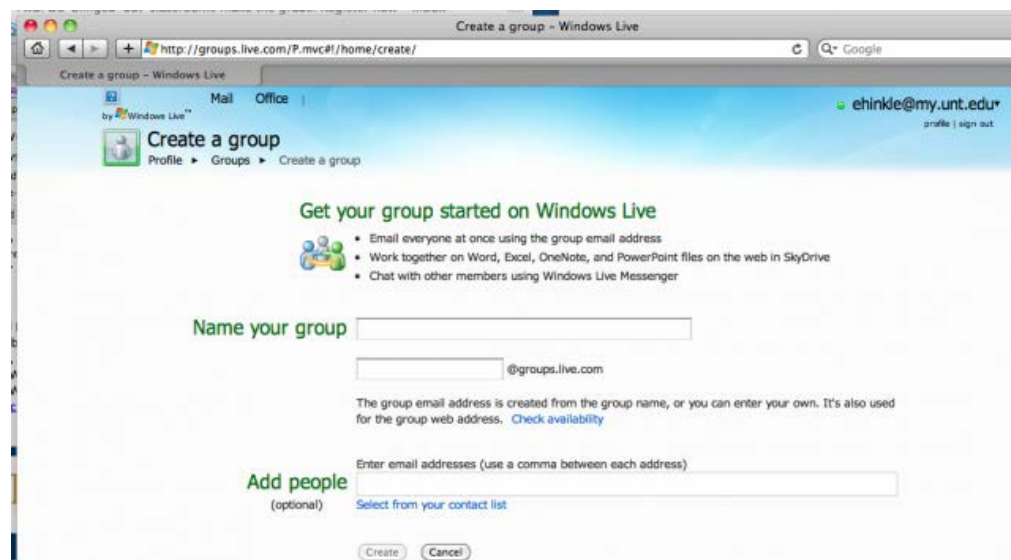

This is where students can set up document collaboration and sharing in EagleConnect

Students can also set up discussion groups using EagleConnect. Here are some of the suggestions for this service:
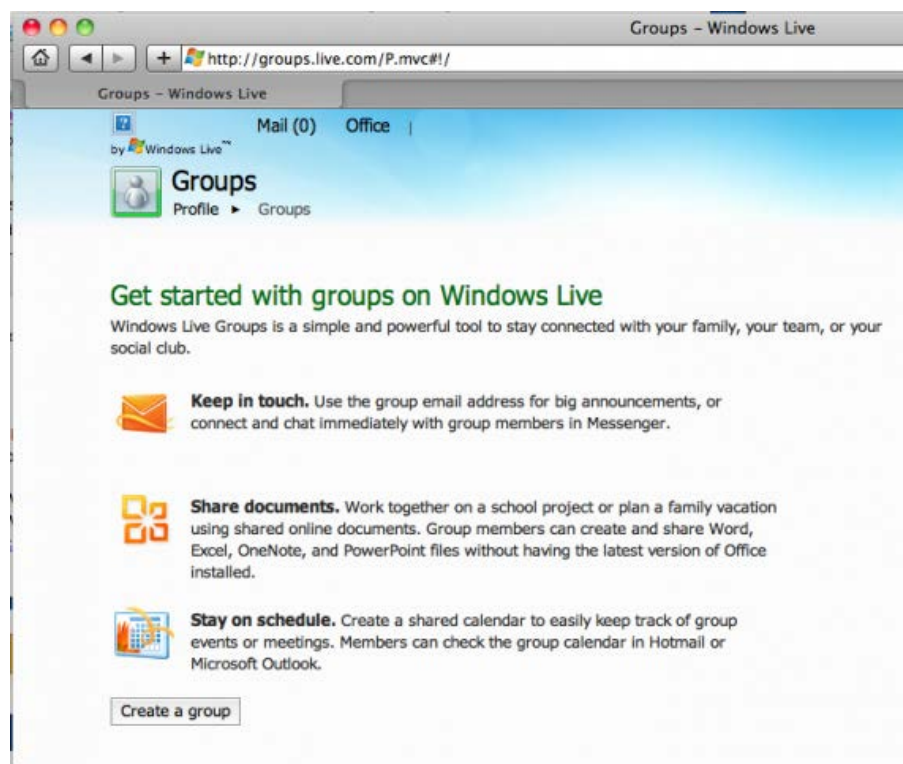
The introduction to groups page in EagleConnect

From here they set up their collaborative space and team:

How to set up a collaborative group in EagleConnect

Many similar digital tools exist in Blackboard and professors using Blackboard in their courses are already familiar with them. However, it needs to be noted that the latest upgrade of Blackboard will use EagleConnect as its "email service" instead of having a stand-alone system. So, students will be accessing EagleConnect regularly as part of their online courses depending on the course design. Additionally, Blackboard is an educational tool that rarely exists in the corporate world. Windows is ubiquitous in the corporate world and the interface and services encountered in EagleConnect are what will be there. EagleConnect is the school-spirited name we gave to Windows Live! which exists in the consumer digital universe and whose features will also be an integral part of future incarnations of the Windows operating system (Windows 8 - coming soon); these tools will most definitely be in your students' futures (there are some rarified [and lucky!] folks who will only be in Mac- and Linux-based worlds but they are few and far between).

Help for Faculty

For faculty wishing to add EagleConnect features to their "teaching toolbox", the folks at Academic Computing and User Services are here to help you. The helpdesk.unt.edu website features many online tutorials about using EagleConnect including adapting it for mobile devices. The ACUS technical services staff (most notably - yours truly - Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner) are happy to consult with faculty on using EagleConnect and Microsoft Cloud Computing features in the classroom. We also have a variety of promotional and educational materials that can be handed out in class. Help your students reach the clouds and then the stars with EagleConnect and come see us and find out more!

BOOKMARK

Site last updated on April 22, 2016

Disclaimer | AA/EOE/ADA | Privacy Statement | Web Accessibility Policy | State of Texas Online | Emergency Preparedness

Benchmarks

A green
light to
greatness.

UNT

Columns, November 2011

- Network Connection
- Link of the Month
- Helpdesk FYI
- ITC News
- RSS Matters
- Training
- Staff Activities

Thanksgiving Break Hours

By Claudia Lynch, *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Thanksgiving and all the good things normally associated with it is almost here. Following are the hours for Computing and Information Technology Center-managed facilities during the Thanksgiving break. The University is officially closed Thursday, November 24, and Friday, November 25. The **Helpdesk** will be closed on Thursday, but will be open for their normal hours on Friday. The lobby will be closed for walk-in traffic, however.

- **Data Management Services** will be closed when the University is closed, Thursday and Friday.

- The **ACS General Access/Adaptive Lab** (SYMR 104) will be closed on Thursday and Friday. We will reopen on Saturday, maintaining their normal hours.

Hours for Other Campus Facilities

There will be **No Shuttle Service** Thursday, November 24 - Saturday, November 26. Check out the UNT Shuttle Schedule here: http://www.unt.edu/transit/routes_sched.html

General Access Labs

- WILLIS **Close**d Thursday, November 24 through Saturday, November 26. Re-open at 10 a.m. Sunday, November, 27 and return to a 24hr schedule.

- College of Information General Access Computer Lab (CI-GACLab) (B205): **Closed** Thursday, November 24 through Saturday, November 26. Re-open at 10 a.m. Sunday, November, 27.

- MUSIC: **Close** at 5 p.m on Wednesday, November 23. **Closed** through Sunday, November 27. Normal Hours will resume on Monday, November 28.

- PACS Computing Center (College of Public Affairs and Community Service, Chilton Hall): **Close** at 11 p.m. Wednesday, November 23 through Sunday, November 27. Re-open at 7 a.m. Monday, November, 28.

- CVAD (formerly SOVA): **Closed** Thursday, November 24 through Sunday, November 27. Re-open at 7:30 a.m. Monday, November, 28.

- COE: **Close** at 5 pm. Wednesday, November 23. **Close**d through Sunday, November 27. Re-open at 7 a.m. Monday, November, 28.

- COB: COB Labs (BLB 185 and 190): **Closed** Thursday, November 24 through Sunday, November 27. Re-open at 8 a.m. Monday, November, 28.

- CAS:

  GAB 330:

  Wednesday, November 23: Close at 10 p.m.

  *Thursday, November 24 - Friday, November 25: **Closed***

  Saturday November 26: Open at Noon

  GAB 550:

  Wednesday, November 23: Close at 8 p.m.

  *Thursday, November 24 - Sunday, November 27: **Closed***

  Monday, November 28: Open at 8 a.m.

  Terrill 220:

  Wednesday, November 23: Close at 7 p.m.

  *Thursday, November 24 - Sunday, November 27: **Closed***

  Monday, November 28: Open at 8 a.m.

  Wooten 120:

  Wednesday, November 23: Close at 8 p.m.

  *Thursday, November 24 - Sunday, November 27: **Closed***

  Monday, November 28: Open at 8 a.m.

- **Engineering General Access Lab (CENGAL, englab@unt.edu, Discovery Park, B129, 891-6733): Close** at 5 p.m. Wednesday, November 23. **Closed** through Sunday, November 27. Re-open Monday, November, 28, resume regular hours.

Remember:

Get your alerts fast in case of inclement weather

Visit the Emergency Management website

City of Denton Residents, sign up for the CodeRED Emergency Notification System

Contact Us:

University Information Technology
1155 Union Circle #310709
Denton, TX 76203 USA
Voice: 940-565-4068
Fax: 940-565-4060

Visit Us:

Sage Hall, Room 338
http://it.unt.edu/benchmarks/

Email us:

Have questions on content or technical issues? Please contact us.
unt.uit@unt.edu

UNT System:

- UNT Home
- UNT System
- UNT Dallas
- UNT Health Science Center

Site last updated on April 22, 2016

Disclaimer | AA/EOE/ADA | Privacy Statement | Web Accessibility Policy | State of Texas Online | Emergency Preparedness

Benchmarks

A green
light to
greatness.

UNT

Columns, November 2011

Network Connection

Link of the Month

Helpdesk FYI

ITC News

RSS Matters

Training

Staff Activities

Home

Today's Cartoon

"According to the computer, I need to back up your kidneys, defragment your liver and reboot your heart."

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

BOOKMARK

Contact Us:

University Information Technology
1155 Union Circle #310709
Denton, TX 76203 USA
Voice: 940-565-4068
Fax: 940-565-4060

Visit Us:

Sage Hall, Room 338
http://it.unt.edu/benchmarks/

Email us:

Have questions on content or technical issues? Please contact us.
unt.uit@unt.edu

UNT System:

- UNT Home
- UNT System
- UNT Dallas
- UNT Health Science Center

Site last updated on April 22, 2016

Benchmarks

A green
light to
greatness.

UNT

Columns, November 2011

Network Connection

Link of the Month

Helpdesk FYI

ITC News

RSS Matters

Training

Staff Activities

Network Connection

By Dr. Philip Baczewski, Senior Director of Academic Computing and User Services

Stop Sending me Paper

The other day I found four pieces of paper in my mailbox at work. This seemed rather odd, since there's seldom any paper in my mailbox, except for HR forms which are apparently still created by calligraphy on papyrus. These days, any paper I do receive generally has a short trip to my recycle bin, and I'm less likely to pay attention to paper advertisements or announcements than to similar online notifications.

The paper avalanche at home in the form of junk postal mail has abated a bit, probably because of the current economic conditions, but it continues none-the-less. Most of this goes directly into the recycle bin. But at work, the paper junk mail has diminished to less than a trickle. Corporations have embraced online marketing techniques, so instead of a pile of paper, it's often e-mails that I have to sort through and virtually trash. But, it's much easier and much less wasteful trashing e-mail than having to comb through the contents of sealed paper envelopes that somehow look more important than they turn out to be.

The paperless office?

For years we've heard about the "paperless office" that was to be achieved thanks to information technology, and yet based on the current stack on my desk, we've yet to achieve that paperless ideal. It's not for my lack of trying. I can take notes on my phone and my desktop computer is an 11" MacBook Air that can also travel with me to meetings. I usually don't carry a pen, which is not a problem until an attendance sheet comes around at meetings and I have to borrow someone's analog writing instrument. And then there's the fact that sometimes, the only access to information is via paper.

So, what's holding us back from the paperless ideal? There are also some practical limitations if you don't have access to portable information technology. Distribution of information on paper at a meeting can be immediately inclusive so long as you've made enough copies for everyone. If you haven't e-mailed a document in advance, it's harder to immediately share electronically. It's easy to make notes on a paper handout, but an electronic file format is not always amenable to to such annotations (with the exception of MS Word, which allows you to insert comments that can be optionally viewed and/or printed.)

Mobile technology marches on

But, I think it's a bit of the momentum of human behavior that keeps us doing the same things we learned long ago. That and universal access to and comfort with mobile IT. But access is quickly changing. The Apple iPad is currently one of the best-selling IT devices. But mobile technology is sneaking in from other directions as well. E-book readers like the Kindle and Nook, may seem like entertainment devices, but they are gradually gaining the power to act as information collaboration platforms (some people are installing the Android operating system on their color Nooks, yielding a inexpensive but powerful tablet computer.)

If there is going to be a more universal trust and acceptance of electronic information sharing, then sharing a document has to be as easy as buying a song from iTunes. Annotating a document has to be as easy as posting your status to Facebook. Perhaps soon we can say that when it comes to information collaboration, there's an app for that. Now the only question is will we be willing to give up our paper when that time comes. Years ago, I knew of people who would print out their e-mail to read it. Hopefully, this is now a defunct practice. Now, why do we create electronic documents and print them out to read them? Some day such behavior may seem equally anachronistic.

BOOKMARK

Contact Us:

University Information Technology
1155 Union Circle #310709
Denton, TX 76203 USA
Voice: 940-565-4068
Fax: 940-565-4060

Visit Us:

Sage Hall, Room 338
http://it.unt.edu/benchmarks/

Email us:

Have questions on content or technical
issues? Please contact us.
unt.uit@unt.edu

UNT System:

- UNT Home
- UNT System
- UNT Dallas
- UNT Health Science Center

Site last updated on April 22, 2016

Disclaimer | AA/EOE/ADA | Privacy Statement | Web Accessibility Policy | State of Texas Online | Emergency Preparedness

Benchmarks

A green
light to
greatness.

UNT

ABOUT BENCHMARK ONLINE   SEARCH ARCHIVE   SUBSCRIBE TO BENCHMARKS ONLINE

Columns, November 2011

Network Connection

Link of the Month

Helpdesk FYI

ITC News

RSS Matters

Training

Staff Activities

Home » issues » 2011-11 » link-of-month

Link of the Month

Social Media @ UNT

There's a new link on the UNT homepage, just for students. As a recent article in *InHouse* stated, "Students are now able to make friends and connect to the campus before they set foot in Denton." If you're a student you can can:

- Connect with other students based on your major, dorm, graduating class or hometown.

- Meet other students who are fans of your favorite bands, TV shows, movies, or teams.

- Begin a conversation, ask questions, get help and answers from university faculty and staff quickly.

- Make close friends even if you come from far away.

The *InHouse* article also points out that the application allows the University to:

- get rich insights and develop a better understanding of the concerns, hopes and interests of students

- start a dialog with students before they arrive on campus

- respond quickly to questions

- reach out to special student populations based on their interests and affiliations

More information at the link below.

http://social.unt.edu/

BOOKMARK

Contact Us:

University Information Technology
1155 Union Circle #310709
Denton, TX 76203 USA
Voice: 940-565-4068
Fax: 940-565-4060

Visit Us:

Sage Hall, Room 338
http://it.unt.edu/benchmarks/

Email us:

Have questions on content or technical issues? Please contact us.
unt.uit@unt.edu

UNT System:

- UNT Home
- UNT System
- UNT Dallas
- UNT Health Science Center

Benchmarks

A green
light to
greatness.

UNT

Columns, November 2011

Network Connection

Link of the Month

Helpdesk FYI

ITC News

RSS Matters

Training

Staff Activities

Helpdesk FYI

By Jonathan "Mac" Edwards, CITC Helpdesk Manager

Accessing Eaglenet with LION 10.7.2

Users who have upgraded to LION 10.7.2 may find that they suddenly have difficulty accessing EaglNet. If this happens to you please try the following steps.

1) Launch the Keychain Access application (found in the Applications/Utilities folder, but just use Spotlight search to find and launch it). *If keychain freezes see instructions at bottom of page.*

2) Open the Preferences for the Keychain Access application.

3) Select the Certificates tab. It should look like this screen shot.
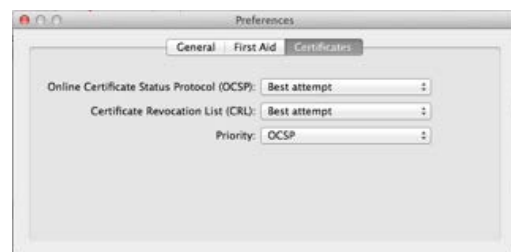
4) Change OSCP and CRL options from "Best attempt" to "Off".
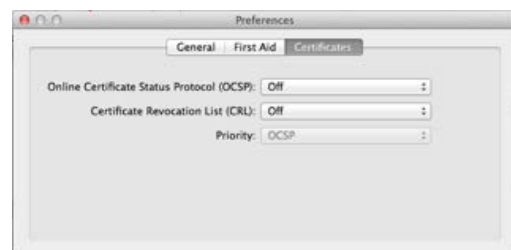
5. Close Keychain Access.

If Keychain Freezes

1. To fix a frozen keychain go to Airport and turn of wireless.

2. Kill Keychain (cmd +option+ escape).

3. Restart the computer.

4. Be sure to Deselect the "Reopen windows when logging back in" option.

If you still cannot log in

- Try using Firefox as your browser. Firefox can be downloaded at http://getfirefox.com.

- If you are unable to download Firefox you can stop by the CITC Helpdesk located in Room 119 in Sycamore Hall.

Benchmarks

A green
light to
greatness.

UNT®

ABOUT BENCHMARK ONLINE   SEARCH ARCHIVE   SUBSCRIBE TO BENCHMARKS ONLINE

Columns, November 2011

Network Connection

Link of the Month

Helpdesk FYI

ITC News

RSS Matters

Training

Staff Activities

Home » issues » 2011-11 » irc-news

ITC News

According to the Information Technology Council (ITC) website, **"As of June 5th, 2008, the IRC (Information Resources Council) became the ITC (Information Technology Council)."*** **

No IRC/ITC minutes were available for publication this month.

*For a list of *IRC Regular and Ex-officio Members click* here. *Tim Christian is currently the chair.*

****DCSMT Minutes can be found** here.

BOOKMARK

Contact Us:
 University Information Technology
1155 Union Circle #310709
Denton, TX 76203 USA
Voice: 940-565-4068
Fax: 940-565-4060

Visit Us:

Sage Hall, Room 338
 http://it.unt.edu/benchmarks/

Email us:
Have questions on content or technical issues? Please contact us.
 unt.uit@unt.edu

UNT System:
- UNT Home
- UNT System
- UNT Dallas
- UNT Health Science Center

Site last updated on April 22, 2016

Disclaimer | AA/EOE/ADA | Privacy Statement | Web Accessibility Policy | State of Texas Online | Emergency Preparedness

Benchmarks

A green
light to
greatness.

UNT

Columns, November 2011

Network Connection

Link of the Month

Helpdesk FYI

ITC News

RSS Matters

Training

Staff Activities

RSS Matters

Research and Statistical Support
University of North Texas

Statistical Resources

Link to the last RSS article here: *Under New Ownership* *-- Ed.*

By **Dr. Jon Starkweather**, Research and Statistical Support Consultant

This month's article was motivated by a Research and Statistical Support (RSS) workshop given recently for graduate students and contains much the same content as was presented in the workshop: Statistical Resources. The following materials are, for the most part, available through the World Wide Web. The resources mentioned below fall, generally, into three categories; the resources we at RSS maintain, the resources available to UNT community members, and resources available to the general public with access to the web.

RSS   Resources

The main RSS website offers several resources, both specific resources aimed at particular software and more general resources (e.g., Data Management Services). One of the key resources available to members of the UNT community is the opportunity to set up a consulting appointment with RSS staff. The link to contact RSS staff for consultation is prominently displayed on each of the pages associated with RSS. The link guides clients to a web interface, known as the Remedy system, which forwards the service request to RSS staff, who then contact the requestor directly (generally through email). Please, read the frequently asked questions (FAQ) prior to submitting a Remedy request. It is also important to note that RSS staff maintains a rather extensive collection of digital and paper copies of articles, book chapters and whole books. RSS staff members often lend copies of these (in whole or part) to clients so clients can research various analysis or methodological concepts to their own satisfaction (and often the satisfaction of their colleagues, advisors, or committees, etc.).

A second frequently used resource RSS offers consists of the instructional services for RSS supported software. These were initially short courses offered in a classroom twice per semester; however, they have been migrated to the online format so that they may reach a wider audience and allow self-paced learning. These pages were designed to show how a particular software package can be used (e.g., R, SPSS, SAS), they are not designed to teach statistics or how to interpret statistics (although some interpretation is offered among the many pages). In fact, some of the software supported by RSS is not directly related to statistics (e.g., survey technology such as Zope and QSurvey). On each of the R, SPSS, SAS short course pages you will also find links to resources specific to those software packages; from user manuals provided by the software producer (e.g., SPSS Manuals, CRAN Task Views) to other users' user guides or websites (e.g. Quick-R, STAT-L). There is even an R specific search engine available called, RSeek.

Another resource RSS offers is displayed right here; the contributions by RSS staff to the *Benchmarks* online publication in the *RSS Matters* column. Each article in the *RSS Matters* column is linked to the previous article and an index of *RSS Matters* articles is maintained on the RSS website. The index is quite handy for finding particular topics (e.g., canonical correlation), rather than clicking back through the years of articles available through the column links.

Online   Statistical   Textbooks

The Rice Virtual Lab in Statistics is a valuable site for anyone interested in learning or teaching some of the basics of traditional (i.e. frequentist) statistics. The site offers several animations for understanding concepts which are often difficult for newcomers to statistics (e.g., sampling distribution characteristics & the Central Limit Theorem). The Rice Virtual Lab in Statistics also offers an online (free; no registration required) introductory statistics textbook. The textbook is called HyperStat and contains chapters which cover the usual contents such as describing univariate and bivariate data, elementary probability, the normal distribution, point estimation, interval estimation, Null Hypothesis testing, statistical power, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), prediction, chi-square, non-parametric tests, and effect size estimates.

A much more comprehensive online textbook style resource is G. David Garson's website called Statnotes. Statnotes covers a myriad of topics from simple mean difference tests to more complex topics such as multilevel models and structural equation modeling. Statnotes also covers important concepts such as measurement scales and testing multivariate assumptions. Each topic covered on Statnotes follows the same general format, providing an overview of the topic and a discussion of key concepts and terms, often including how to conduct the analysis in SPSS (or other software) with output provided and interpretation of the output; as well as a discussion of the assumptions of the analysis. The Statnotes pages generally utilize SPSS, but other software is mentioned and/or used where appropriate (e.g., HLM, SAS PROC MIXED, SPSS Mixed Module for multilevel models and SAS PROC CALIS, EQS, Lisrel, Amos, Mplus for structural equation modeling).

Statsoft, the company behind the statistical software Statistica, also offers web surfers a textbook covering a variety of statistical topics. The Statsoft site covers topics ranging from elementary concepts, basic statistics, ANOVA/MANOVA to multivariate topics such as principle components and factor analysis, multidimensional scaling, and structural equation modeling. Unlike Statnotes, mentioned above, the Statsoft site does not offer software output or interpretation (although graphs and tables are often used). However, one handy feature of the Statsoft site is the interactive glossary; each hyperlinked word sends the users to the definition/entry for that word in the glossary. The Statsoft textbook is also available in printed form for $80.00 plus shipping.

Miscellaneous   Other   Resources

Another resource option for members of the UNT community, which is often overlooked, is the UNT library system. The library's general catalog contains a monumental collection of resources, from textbooks being used in current courses to books which focus on the statistical analyses used in particular fields and authoritative books devoted to specific types of analysis (e.g., searching "logistic regression" yielded 66 returns). Furthermore, the electronic resources offer access to thousands of periodicals (i.e. journals) from a variety of databases (e.g. EBSCOHost, Medline, ERIC, LexisNexis, & JSTOR). One of the most frequently used databases by RSS staff is the JSTOR database, which contains many of the most prominent methodological and statistical journals – with almost all articles available (through the UNT portal) in full text (i.e. Adobe.pdf format). Another commonly used resource is the Journal of Statistical Software, which contains articles on a variety of statistical computing applications/software, as well as articles covering statistical methods. One more often consulted resource is the *little green books* which are actually a series published by Sage. The Quantitative Applications in the Social Sciences series are a collection of thin, soft covered, books; each dealing with a specific research or statistical topic. The UNT library carries approximately 145 of the series' editions and the RSS staff has collected most of the series as well. There are approximately 170 books in the series and a typical researcher would be hard pressed not to find something of value among them. Of course, there are more general resources, such as Google, Scholarpedia, Wikipedia, and even Youtube; all of which can be useful.

Until next time, may all your Bayes Factors be > 50 or < .05 …

BOOKMARK

Benchmarks

A green light to greatness.

Columns, November 2011

- Network Connection
- Link of the Month
- Helpdesk FYI
- ITC News
- RSS Matters
- **Training**
- Staff Activities

Training

By Claudia Lynch, *Benchmarks   Online* Editor

This monthly column is getting a new title as soon as we can get the bugs worked out. As stated in Benchmarks Online Column Topic Changes, "Training" is a more descriptive title now that short courses are not offered on a regular basis. -- Ed.

Instructor-led courses are currently offered only by special request. Please contact an RSS member or Claudia Lynch if you are interested in taking such a class or wish to have someone offer a class for your students. **SPSS and SAS courses are now offered *online* only.** RSS staff will be still be available for consultation on those topics, however. Another class available online is ***Introduction to R***. Make sure and check out the **RSS Matters** article *Statistical Resources* in this issue of *Benchmarks Online.*

Special classes can always be arranged with the RSS staff. See "Customized Short Courses" below for further information. Also, you can *always* contact the RSS staff for one-on-one consultation. **Please read the FAQ before requesting an appointment though.**

Especially for Faculty and Staff Members

In addition to the online statistical courses, which are available to students, faculty and staff, staff and faculty members can take courses offered through the Human Resources Department (they have a new comprehensive training curriculum), and the Center for Learning Enhancement, Assessment, and Redesign (CLEAR). Additionally, the Center for Achievement and Lifelong Learning (CALL) offers a variety of courses, usually for a small fee.

EIS training is available and expanding. Please see the article *EIS Training Available Online for New Faculty & Staff* in the August issue of *Benchmarks Online* for further information.

Microsoft E-Learning

Microsoft E-Learning courses are now available for **faculty and staff** via our UNT-Microsoft Campus Agreement. Please contact Claudia Lynch at lynch@unt.edu for instructions on accessing this training. If you haven't accessed the training since last year you will need to get a new access code.

Microsoft Outlook Tutorials and much more

The Enterprise Messaging and Directory Services Group has all sorts of useful information on their website, including tutorials and FAQs. The home page displays a list of their newest tutorials with tutorial topic pages displaying the most accessed pages. You can search the site for whatever you're interested via a Search Box on the left-hand side of the page.

Central Web Support

Consult Central Web Support for assistance in acquiring "Internet services and support." As described on their website:

CWS provides Internet services and support to UNT faculty, staff and students. Services include allocating and assisting departments, campus organizations and faculty with web space and associated applications. Additionally, CWS assists web developers with databases and associated web applications, troubleshooting problems, support and service.

CLEAR

CLEAR offers courses especially for Faculty Members. A list of topics and further information can be found here.

"Brown Bag Seminars" are back! Faculty meet for lunch once a month during the Fall and Spring sessions in Chilton 245 from Noon-1 p.m. 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. **The next meeting is on December 14.** More information on these activities can be found at the CLEAR Website.

Ed2go

Ed2go are courses that are offered, for a fee, to UNT faculty, staff and students as well as the general public. According to the CALL website:

> CALL has partnered up to provide online learning on a variety of topics. From standardized test preparation to database programming to training for libraries and their staff, there's a variety of areas from which to choose in online learning.

> The online minicourses, provided in conjunction with Ed2go, are standardized 12-lesson modules released over a six week period. (Courses are active for eight weeks to provide some flexibility). Each module features a quiz. Lessons are instructor-led and course participants and instructor communicate through a course discussion board. Lessons can be downloaded and saved. At the end of the course there is a final quiz. A passing grade opens a window that allows students to print out a course completion certificate.

> All courses are $89, and UNT faculty, staff and students may receive a $10 discount.

For additional information surf over to http://www.ed2go.com/unt/

Information Security Awareness

The UNT Information Security team offers Information Security Awareness courses to all UNT faculty and staff. Topics to be covered will include workstation security, sensitive data handling, copyright infringement issues, identity theft, email security, and more.

It is a policy requirement that ALL staff take an information security course at least once a year.

Please contact Allan Anderson in CITC Information Security if you have any questions, or would like more information about the online training. **Either attending a live class or going through the online training will count towards your training requirement.** You can also request a customized course to be taught for your department.

Alternate Forms of Training

Many of the General Access Labs around campus have tutorials installed on their computers. See http://www.gal.unt.edu/ for a list of labs and their locations. The Willis Library, for example, has a list of Tutorials and Software Support. The Library Instructional Unit also offers workshops and training, including "tech skills" training. Visit their websites for more information: http://www.library.unt.edu/library-instruction

The Training Website has all sorts of information about alternate forms of training. Computer Based Training (CBT) and Web-based training are some of the alternatives offered, although due to the rising costs of training, shrinking budgets and changing technology, computer-based training at UNT is in a state of transition. For up-to-date information on CBT at UNT, see the CBT website.

Gartner Research Services

UNT has offered Gartner Core Research Services to *all* UNT faculty, students, and staff since 2006. All you need to do to access the subscription is to **log into the UNT Gartner portal page** at https://gartner.unt.edu/. Once you have logged in, you can view upcoming webinars: http://www.gartner.com/webinars/ and listen to Gartner podcasts here: http://www.gartner.com/it/products/podcasting/asset_137461_2616.jsp. For more information about Garther Research Services, see the article *Gartner Core Research Services Available to the UNT Community* in the August issue of *Benchmarks Online*.

State of Texas Department of Information Resources

Another possible source of training for staff and, perhaps, faculty members is the Texas Department of Information Resources. A look at their Education and Training website reveals some interesting possibilities.

New Horizons Computer Learning Centers

New Horizins is a DIR vendor, which means that state agencies, like UNT, get special pricing for their services negotiated at the State level (click here for more information about DIR vendors). New Horizons offers courses at their own facilities in Dallas and Fort Worth, but will arrange for onsite training as well.

BOOKMARK

Contact Us:
 University Information Technology
1155 Union Circle #310709
Denton, TX 76203 USA
Voice: 940-565-4068
Fax: 940-565-4060

Visit Us:

Sage Hall, Room 338
http://it.unt.edu/benchmarks/

Email us:
Have questions on content or technical issues? Please contact us.
unt.uit@unt.edu

UNT System:
- UNT Home
- UNT System
- UNT Dallas
- UNT Health Science Center

Site last updated on April 22, 2016

Disclaimer | AA/EOE/ADA | Privacy Statement | Web Accessibility Policy | State of Texas Online | Emergency Preparedness

Benchmarks

A green
light to
greatness.

ABOUT BENCHMARK ONLINE   SEARCH ARCHIVE   SUBSCRIBE TO BENCHMARKS ONLINE

Columns, November 2011

Network Connection

Link of the Month

Helpdesk FYI

ITC News

RSS Matters

Training

Staff Activities

Home » issues » 2011-11 » staff-activities

Staff Activities

Transitions

New Employees:

- **Thomas Johns**, Student Assistant, Central Web Support, Enterprise Systems Technical Services (part-time).
- **Kyle Taylor**, Student Assistant, UNTranet-SharePoint, Enterprise Collaboration Services (AIS) (part-time).
- **Wil Clark**, IT Manager, UNT System Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer (CIO).
- **Damian Garcia**, CSS Tech, Classroom Support Services (part-time).

No longer working in the Computing and Information Technology Center:

- **Nnaemeka Onuoha**, IT Programmer Analyst, Financial Information Systems (AIS).
- **Bhaskara Ajjarapu**, IT Programmer Analyst, Financial Information Systems (AIS).

Changes, Awards, Recognition, Publications, etc.

Service to UNT

Congratulations to the following employees for their years of service to UNT. They were recently recognized in *InHouse*.

20 Years of Service

- **William (Bill) Belcher**, IT Programmer Analyst, EIS Application Infrastructure Management, AIS Tools & User Services.

10 Years of Service

- **Cristin Peacock**, Administrative Specialist, University Information Contact Center, Telecommunications.

5 years of Service

- **Henry Stewart**, IT Specialist, Enterprise Systems Technical Services.

BOOKMARK

Site last updated on April 22, 2016

MyUNT EagleConnect Blackboard People & Departments Maps Calendars Giving to UNT

Benchmarks

A green
light to
greatness.

UNT

ABOUT BENCHMARK ONLINE   SEARCH ARCHIVE   SUBSCRIBE TO BENCHMARKS ONLINE

Columns, November 2011

Network Connection

Link of the Month

Helpdesk FYI

ITC News

RSS Matters

Training

Staff Activities

Home

Benchmarks Issue content

Contact Us:

University Information Technology
1155 Union Circle #310709
Denton, TX 76203 USA
Voice: 940-565-4068
Fax: 940-565-4060

Visit Us:

Sage Hall, Room 338
http://it.unt.edu/benchmarks/

Email us:

Have questions on content or technical
issues? Please contact us.
unt.uit@unt.edu

UNT System:

- UNT Home
- UNT System
- UNT Dallas
- UNT Health Science Center

Site last updated on April 22, 2016

Disclaimer | AA/EOE/ADA | Privacy Statement | Web Accessibility Policy | State of Texas Online | Emergency Preparedness

http://it.unt.edu/benchmarks/issues/2011/11/short-courses[4/28/16, 1:21:28 PM]