Benchmarks Online

Volume 9 - Number 3 * March 2006

Columns

- NetworkConnection
- Link of the Month
- IRC News
- RSS Matters
- www@unt.edu
- Short Courses
- Staff Activities

About Benchmarks

Search Archive

Subscribe to Benchmarks

Campus Computing News

What is UNT's policy with regard to GroupWise mail?

Spring Break Hours

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

Inexpensive Software Available to Students

Don't forget our monthly Columns!

Today's Cartoon

Return to top

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

Questions, comments and corrections for this site: lynch@unt.edu
Site was last updated or revised : March 11, 2006

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Benchmarks Online

Page One

Campus
Computing
News

**Spring Break
 Hours**

**Microsoft
 Products
 Available to UNT
 Employees at
 Low Cost**

**Inexpensive
 Software
 Available to
 Students**

** Today's Cartoon**

** RSS Matters**

** The Network
 Connection**

** Link of the
 Month**

** WWW@UNT.EDU**

** Short Courses**

** IRC News**

** Staff Activities**

**Subscribe to
 Benchmarks
 Online**

Campus Computing News

What is UNT's policy with regard to GroupWise mail?

By **Dr. Maurice Leatherbury**, **Associate Vice President for Computing and Chief Technology Officer, CITC**

At a recent President's Staff Sack Lunch, an attendee complained that he/she had sent a message to someone in the GroupWise directory only to learn that the intended recipient never reads his GroupWise mail and doesn't have it forwarded to some other mail system to read it. The
sender then had to figure out how to get the message to this recipient, a process that required a lot of additional effort. The attendee asked whether anything could be done about employees not reading their GroupWise e-mail.

Shouldn't everyone be required to read their GroupWise mail?

There is no official UNT policy requiring that employees read their GroupWise mail, just as there is no policy requiring them to read their paper mail. The general expectation, though, is that if you're in the GroupWise directory you can and should read messages directed to you in that system. Forcing others to check whether you read GroupWise mail is inconsiderate and puts an undue burden on everyone on campus who uses GroupWise.

While there are a number of reasons that it makes good sense for everyone at UNT to use GroupWise to send and receive e-mail (you can communicate with large numbers of employees quickly, it's quick and inexpensive compared to "snail mail," you can tell whether your message
got to its intended recipient, important announcements about University business or schedules are sent using GroupWise, etc.) we realize that some employees simply won't or can't read GroupWise e-mail. We are asking Network Mangers to evaluate the reasons why employees in their departments don't want to use GroupWise and to make a management decision whether those employees should be exempt from reading GroupWise e-mail. If they decide that an employee can't or won't use GroupWise, we're asking the network manager responsible for the department to remove the employee from the GroupWise directory.

Deleted from the GroupWise directory?

Employees whose names are deleted from the GroupWise directory can set their preferred e-mail address to a non-GroupWise address using UNT's Account Management System (http://ams.unt.edu). Those names can be searched for in the "Master UNT Directory" search directory that shows up in GroupWise's Novell LDAP Address Book tab and mail can then be
sent to the non-GroupWise addresses. However, those addresses aren't included in "everyone" messages (either the "UNT GW Directory" ones or official messages from the President, HR, etc.)

Anyone trying to send messages to those non-GroupWise recipients will have to go to extra effort to find those addresses, but it does at least provide the campus a way to reach those employees via e-mail. A tutorial to aid in this process can be found at http://ncs.unt.edu/gw/howto/addressbook/LDAPReg/index.html .

Conclusion

Please help to improve communication on campus by using the official e-mail system, GroupWise. If that isn't possible, please make sure your name is deleted from the GroupWise directory by contacting your Network Manager .

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Return to top

Benchmarks Online

Page One

Campus Computing News

Spring Break Hours

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

Inexpensive Software Available to Students

Today's Cartoon

RSS Matters

The Network Connection

Link of the Month

WWW@UNT.EDU

Short Courses

IRC News

Staff Activities

Subscribe to Benchmarks Online

Spring Break Hours

By Claudia Lynch, Benchmarks Online Editor

Believe it or not, Spring Break is almost upon us. Following are the hours for Computing and Information Technology Center-managed facilities over the break. The University is officially closed March 13-17. Additionally:

- The **Helpdesk** will be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, then back to normal hours during Spring Break.

- The **ACS General Access/Adaptive Lab** (ISB 110):

  Sunday, March 12: **Closed**
  Monday-Friday, March 13-17: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
  Saturday, March 18: **Closed**
  Sunday, March 19: Resume normal hours.

Hours for Other Campus Facilities

General Access Labs

- WILLIS:

  Saturday, March 11: Close at 11:50 p.m.
  Sunday, March 12: **Closed**
  Monday-Friday, March 13-17: 8 a.m. - 7:50 p.m.
  Saturday, March 18: **Closed**
  Sunday, March 19: Open at 1 p.m. and return to 24 hour schedule

- SLIS:

  Monday-Friday, March 13-17: **Closed**
  Saturday, March 18: resume normal hours.

- MUSIC:

  Close at 5 p.m. Friday, March 10.
  Re-open 7:30 a.m. Monday, March 20.

- PACS Computing Center (formerly SCS & SMHM):

  Close at 6 p.m. Friday, March 10.
  Re-open 7 a.m. Monday, March 20.

- SOVA:

Saturday, March 11 - Sunday, March 19: **Closed**
Monday, March 20: resume normal hours.

- COE:

  Close at 5 p.m. Friday, March 10.
  Re-open 7 a.m. Monday, March 20.

- COBA:

  Sunday, March 12 : **Close** at 4 p.m.
  Monday-Friday, March 13-17: **Closed**

- **CAS:**

  GAB 330:

  Saturday, March 11 : **Close** at 5 p.m.
  Sunday, March 19: resume normal hours.

  GAB 550:

  Saturday, March 11 : **Close** at 5 p.m.
  Monday, March 20: Open 8 a.m., resume normal hours.

   Terrill 220:

  Saturday, March 11 : **Close** at 5 p.m.
  Monday, March 20: Open 8 a.m., resume normal hours.

  Wooten 120:

  Saturday, March 11 : **Close** at 5 p.m.
  Monday, March 20: Open 8 a.m., resume normal hours.

- **UNT Dallas Campus - 155A**

  Sunday, March 12 - Wednesday, March 15: **Closed**
  Thursday, March 16: Noon - 8 p.m.
  Friday, March 17: Noon - 6 p.m.
  Saturday, March 18: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
  Sunday March, 19: **Closed**

- **Engineering General Access Lab (englab@unt.edu, Research Park, B129, 891-6733)**

  Close at 5 p.m. Friday, March 10.
  Re-open 9 a.m. Monday, March 20.

Spring Break Hours

Benchmarks Online

Skip Navigation Links

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

This is an updated version of an article that we run from time to time. - Ed.

By Dr. Maurice Leatherbury, Associate Vice President for Computing and Chief Technology Officer, CITC

For a number of years, UNT has had an agreement with Microsoft that allows us to distribute various Microsoft products to employees of the University. According to the agreement, you can "use the software for school-related purposes on a personally-owned computer or an institution-owned computer designated for your exclusive use" and you must remove the software from your home machine if you leave UNT. ***This agreement does not cover students unless those students are also UNT employees, nor does it cover UNT Health Science Center employees.***

If you need one of these products on your office machine here at UNT, contact your network manager because there's no charge for the software on University-owned machines. Please direct any questions about the *terms* of the agreement to Mike Wright (x3632).

MS Software Available at the UNT Bookstore

The following products are available at the prices indicated in the general books/software section of the UNT Bookstore:

- Office Pro 2003 - $14
- Office XP Pro - $21
- FrontPage 2003 - $7 each
- Publisher 2003 - $7
- Office 2001 Mac - $7
- Office 2004 Mac - $8
- Mac Office 2004 Pro (includes Virtual PC 7) - $10
- Visual Studio.net Academic 2003 - $56
- Windows XP Pro upgrade - $8

For more information, phone 940-565-3185 or send e-mail to unt@bkstr.com.

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

Benchmarks Online

Page One

Campus Computing News

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

Inexpensive Software Available to Students

Today's Cartoon

RSS Matters

The Network Connection

Link of the Month

WWW@UNT.EDU

Short Courses

IRC News

Staff Activities

Subscribe to Benchmarks Online

Inexpensive Software Available to Students

This is an updated version of an article that we run from time to time. - Ed.

By Claudia Lynch, *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Students shouldn't feel left out of the "low cost software loop," when contemplating the contents of the article "Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost." Although the price may be a bit higher than $7.00, the University Bookstore has a variety of software available for students at greatly discounted educational prices. As was reported last semester (with changes and updates, where appropriate):

The UNT Computing and Information Technology Center has negotiated special pricing for students on select software products from Microsoft and Adobe. Discount pricing is available for the following Adobe titles:

Acrobat Standard -- $47
Acrobat Professional -- $60
Creative Suites Premium -- $265
Production Studio PRM -- $469 *Coming Soon*
Video Collection

Microsoft Student Select pricing includes:

Microsoft Office 2003 Professional Edition -- $99
Microsoft Office 2004 Mac Professional Edition -- $99
Microsoft Windows XP Professional Upgrade -- $92
Microsoft FrontPage 2003 -- $59
Microsoft OneNote 2003 -- $25
Microsoft Project 2003 Pro -- $105
Microsoft Visio Pro 2003 -- $69

The pricing on these products represents significant savings over the retail and the standard academic pricing.

These software pricing offers are exclusively available at the University of North Texas Bookstore in the University Union. For more information, phone 940-565-3185 or send e-mail to unt@bkstr.com.

Also, as stated on the CITC Information Security Website:

McAfee VirusScan 8.0*i* is now available for FREE to all UNT students, faculty, and staff by downloading it from our website or you can purchase a CD from the software bookstore in the student union for only $3.00.

McAfee VirusScan can only be installed on PC's running Windows NT 4.0 SP6

or greater, Windows 2000 Pro SP 3 or greater, Windows XP or Windows 2003 Server.

Note: Will not run on PC's with Windows 95, 98 or ME

[Return to top](#)

Benchmarks Online

Page One

Campus Computing News

Spring Break Hours

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

Inexpensive Software Available to Students

Today's Cartoon

RSS Matters

The Network Connection

Link of the Month

WWW@UNT.EDU

Short Courses

IRC News

Staff Activities

Subscribe to Benchmarks Online

TODAY'S CARTOON

Copyright 2006 by Randy Glasbergen.
www.glasbergen.com
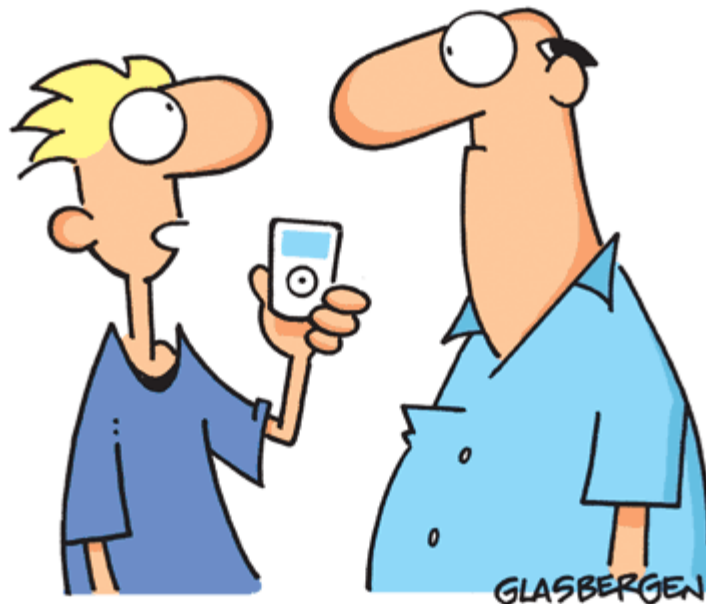
"THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH YOUR IPOD, DAD.
IT'S JUST TOO EMBARRASSED TO PLAY
THE KIND OF MUSIC YOU LIKE!"

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

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Return to top

Benchmarks Online

Network Connection

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

Ma! You're Back!

With the recent announcement that the newly reconstituted AT&T was planning to buy BellSouth, it's as if the old Ma Bell has been brought back to life. This is quite an achievement, considering that AT&T itself was near death, with it's wireless division sold off, it famous Bell Labs spun off under the auspices of Lucent Technologies, and its long distance services still competing with Sprint, MCI, and a host of others including Internet newcomers, Vonage and Skype. It took SBC (formerly Southwestern Bell) to buy AT&T's remains and adopt its brand so that life would once again come to the company that in older times we called Ma Bell.

Ancient History

Most college freshman will not remember Ma Bell. In these days of ubiquitous telephony and multiple service options, it's hard to remember that at one time, AT&T was THE phone company, with only a few exceptions. GTE, now Verizon, was one of the few large local phone companies that was not part of the Bell system. AT&T was the only long distance carrier. It served all of the regional local-service companies most of which were associated with AT&T under the umbrella of the Bell System. It took a 1974 lawsuit based on anti-trust allegations to split up the Bell System into AT&T, the long distance and technology company, along with the "Baby Bells" or "Regional Bell operating Companies" (RBOCs) as they were known. The lawsuit was settled in 1984 and the Bell system was officially sundered in 1986. This enabled little startups like MCI and Sprint to compete in the long distance market and gain access to RBOCs, access that was previously denied or made prohibitively expensive by AT&T.

Southwestern Bell was originally one of those RBOCs, but in the increasingly lax regulatory environment of the last 10 years, they managed to create a holding company called SBC and accumulate a number of the RBOCs, other holding companies, and local exchange carriers under their ownership. When SBC recently purchased AT&T, they decided to adopt the AT&T brand. The purchase of BellSouth would add two more RBOCs to that list and once again give AT&T control over local service for a large portion of the U.S. along with a long distance company and a youngster in the form of the Cingular wireless service. It's as if the Baby Bells have grown up, gone to college, and have now moved back in with their parents.

You've Redecorated

As in real life, it's never quite the same if you do go home again. The telecommunication landscape has changed quite a bit since 1986 and the biggest change is the development of the Internet. Local service now has to compete with cell phone service, and in addition to the

myriad of long distance choices, you now have VOIP services like Vonage and Skype providing competition. Phone companies are now offering broadband Internet and television services and cable TV companies are offering phone service.

One of the changes brought about by the 1986 breakup of the Bell System was that local phone competition came into play for the RBOCs. Companies like Verizon don't have to allow competition for local service, but as part of the settlement, RBOCs must allow access to their local lines for local service and long distance competitors. It's unlikely that the reconstitution of Ma Bell would change that requirement. There seems to be more concern about the lack of competition in the local broadband service market. Right now, it seems that most people's only choices are DSL from their phone company or "cable modem" service from their cable TV company.

Broadband Options

It's a bit of a secret that there is competition for local DSL service. One option is a company called Speakeasy which can provide DSL service in some locations even if you don't have local phone service. Another broadband option is EVDO (Evolution Version Data Only) which uses a cellular network to provide data access. Local municipal wireless networks also provide competition with broadband service companies which is probably why those companies have backed legislative efforts in Texas and other places to outlaw such endeavors. So far, most of those legislative efforts have failed (the exception being Pennsylvania).

So, even if the kids do all move home, it appears that the competitive environment has changed enough that AT&T won't be able to build the monopoly position it held before the breakup. Still, there is a lack of choices in broadband Internet access and that lack is keeping prices high for home users. Hopefully, new technologies like EVDO and the increasing availability of cellular service will help to bring more competition to the marketplace and therefore more access at a lower cost for broadband at home.

Return to top

Benchmarks Online

Page One

Campus Computing News

Spring Break Hours

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

Inexpensive Software Available to Students

Today's Cartoon

RSS Matters

The Network Connection

Link of the Month

WWW@UNT.EDU

Short Courses

IRC News

Staff Activities

Subscribe to Benchmarks Online

Link of the Month

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

UNT's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

Have you heard the QEP buzz going around campus? According to a recent communication from the QEP Steering Committee:

> The UNT QEP, a major component in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) reaffirmation and accreditation process, is expected to be approved by SACS on-site review team in April. The plan requires the university to identify and tackle an issue or topic that is directly related to the enhancement of student-learning outcomes. UNT is accredited by SACS and must periodically undergo a process of reaffirmation.

> The goal of UNT's QEP is to transform instruction and student-learning outcomes in large-enrollment undergraduate courses by engaging, encouraging and enabling faculty members to investigate and apply innovative instructional techniques. This will enhance the overall quality of instruction, improve student access to courses and strengthen the efficiency of the learning and teaching process and, ultimately, lead to greater student success.

Several UNT QEP Faculty Coffees have been scheduled to allow faculty members to learn about UNT's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The first coffee was held March 3. Additional coffees are set for:

- 4:30 to 6 p.m. March 21 in the University Union, Diamond Eagle Suite.

- 4 to 5 p.m. March 29 at the Research Park Library.

Each coffee will include a brief overview of the UNT QEP and a question-and-answer session. Coffee, tea and cake will be served. There also will be chances to win great UNT QEP door prizes.

To learn more about the UNT QEP, visit the QEP website at http://web2.unt.edu/cdl/QEP/ . Visit the site, take the QEP quiz, and register to win an iPod Nano!

Link of the Month

Return to top

Benchmarks Online

Page One

Campus Computing

Spring Break Hours

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

Inexpensive Software Available to Students

Today's Cartoon

RSS Matters

The Network Connection

Link of the Month

WWW@UNT.EDU

Short Courses

IRC News

Staff Activities

Subscribe to Benchmarks Online

IRC News

Minutes provided by Sue Ellen Richey, Recording Secretary*

No minutes were available for publication this month.

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* For a list of IRC Regular and Ex-officio Members click here.

**DCSMT Minutes can be found here.

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. The schedule can be found here. All meetings of the IRC, its program groups, and other committees, are open to all faculty, staff, and students.

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Return to top

Benchmarks Online

Research and Statistical Support
University of North Texas

RSS Matters

Link to the last RSS article here: Installing SPSS 14 - Ed.

Bayesian Packages for R version 2.2.1

By **Dr Rich Herrington**, **ACS Research and Statistical Support Services Consultant**

R version 2.2.1 was released on December 20, 2005. A description of changes for Microsoft Windows platform versions can be found here. The latest versions of R for the Windows platform can be found here. We are hosting a local copy of the R 2.2.1 installation file for the Windows platform here for download. **Additionally, we have made free copies of a "executable" CD version of R 2.2.1 available over in the UNT bookstore (trade books)**. R 2.2.1 has been installed on this "live" CD with some minor pre-configurations so that R can run off of the CD. To begin the R session, browse to the **\bin** folder on the CD and click the **Rgui.exe** file. Additionally, you can set up a shortcut on your desktop to run R off of the CD. Alternatively, you can copy the contents of the CD into an R folder on your local hard-drive and create a shortcut to the **C:\R\bin\Rgui.exe** file. Once R has been started, you should see two windows once the initialization of R is complete. The first is the **R Console window**:

```
R Console                                                    _ □ ×
File  Edit  Misc  Packages  Help

R : Copyright 2005, The R Foundation for Statistical Computing
Version 2.2.1  (2005-12-20 r36812)
ISBN 3-900051-07-0

R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

  Natural language support but running in an English locale

R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

Loading required package: tcltk
Loading Tcl/Tk interface ... done
Loading required package: car

Rcmdr Version 1.1-7
>
```
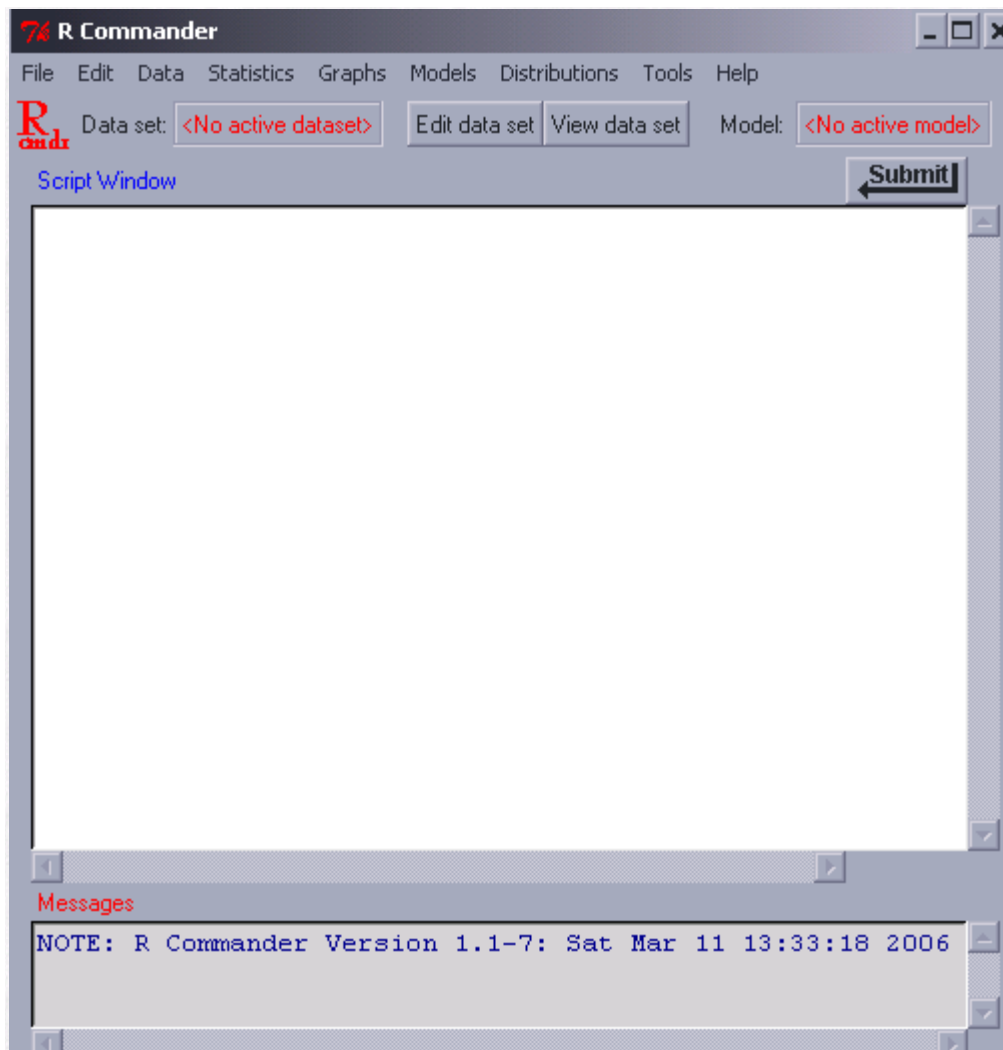
The second is the **R Commander window**, a simple drop down menu for doing a number of beginner to advanced statistics thru a GUI dialog system:

To set up your working directory so that you can read and write files to your local storage media (not the CD - since it is write only). Go the R console window and select "File - Change dir":
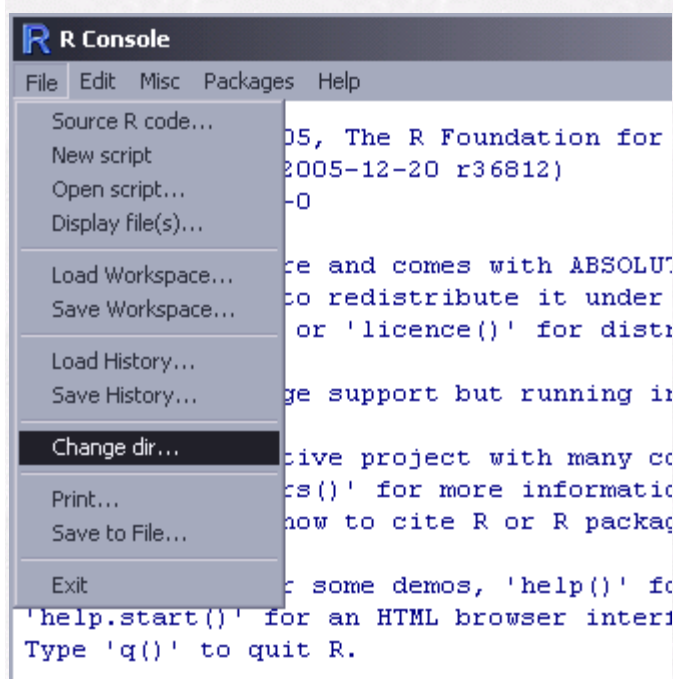
You can set your working directory to a writeable storage media:
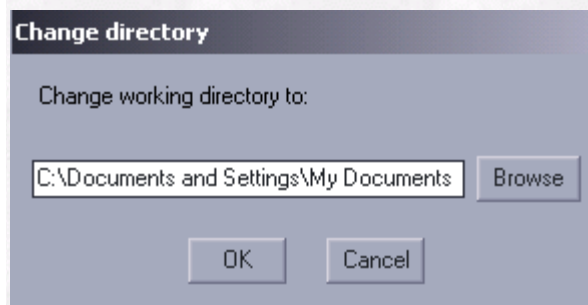
Now you should be able to write out and read to this directory.

Bayesian Analysis in R

Bayesian approaches to inference have become increasingly popular in applied statistics since the arrival of cheap, fast, computers. The availability of today's computational power in a desktop PC allows more complicated, realistic Bayesian models to be estimated thru simulation methodologies. Currently, the availability of the BUGS software (e.g. WinBugs & OpenBugs) and numerous R packages dedicated to Bayesian analysis, give the researcher an arsenal of methods to attack problems from a Bayesian framework. An introduction to Bayesian thinking and data analysis is beyond the scope of this current article, but we hope to cover an introduction to Bayesian analysis in R and WinBugs in future column installments. Here, we just present a sampling of some of the packages that are available in R for doing Bayesian analysis:

R2WinBUGS	Running WinBUGS from R
bayesm	Bayesian Inference for Marketing/Micro-econometrics
bayesSurv	Bayesian Survival Regression with Flexible Error and Random Effects Distributions
BayesTree	Bayesian Methods for Tree Based Models
baymvb	Bayesian analysis of multivariate binary data|
BMA	Bayesian Model Averaging
boa	Bayesian Output Analysis Program (BOA) for MCMC
deal	Learning Bayesian Networks with Mixed Variables
ebayesthresh	Empirical Bayes thresholding and related methods
eco	R Package for Fitting Bayesian Models of Ecological Inference in 2x2 Tables
HighProbability	HighProbability estimates which alternative hypotheses have frequentist or Bayesian probabilities
MSBVAR	Bayesian Vector Autoregression Models, Impulse Responses and Forecasting.
survBayes	Fits a proportional hazards model to time to event data by a Bayesian approach
tgp	Bayesian treed Gaussian process models
vabayelMix	Variational Bayesian Mixture Modelling
BsMD	Bayes Screening and Model Discrimination
evdbayes	Bayesian Analysis in Extreme Value Theory
siggenes	SAM and Efron's empirical Bayes approaches
mcmc	Markov Chain Monte Carlo
MCMCpack	Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Package

A Few Good Books on Bayesian Analysis

I'll end this column by listing a few of my favorite books on Bayesian Analysis:

 [Bayesian Statistics and Marketing](#)
 [Applied Bayesian Modeling](#)
 [Bayesian Approaches to Clinical Trials and Health-Care Evaluation](#)
 [Biostatistics: A Bayesian Introduction](#)
 [Bayesian Models for Categorical Data](#)
 [Introduction to Bayesian Statistics](#)
 [Bayesian Data Analysis](#)
 [Bayesian Methods: A Social and Behavioral Sciences Approach](#)

[Return to top](#)

Benchmarks Online

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Central Web Support: The Next Generation

By **Shannon Eric Peevey**, **UNT Central Web Support**

We are excited to present a new dynamic content web farm, which will become the default installation for all dynamic content web hosting for Central Web Support. This farm will have increased stability and security over the existing dynamic content web server (web2), and is the recommended environment for all new web sites that use dynamic content hosted with Central Web Support. The farm consists of:

- 4 x apache2 web servers
- 2 x clustered ColdFusion MX 7 Application servers
- 1 x MySQL 5.0 machine (soon to be a master/slave or clustered configuration)

The following is a list of important information that will help you to decide if/when you want to migrate your applications from web2 to the new framework.

Adobe ColdFusion MX 7

We are now clustering Adobe ColdFusion MX to create a highly-available support for ColdFusion applications. There are currently two machines in the cluster, with a plan to move to four machines after the start of the fiscal new year 2006-2007.

Here is a link to the release notes documenting new features, migration information, and changes in the current release:

http://www.macromedia.com/support/documentation/en/coldfusion/mx7/releasenotes.html

The only major configuration change between ColdFusion MX on web2 and ColdFusion MX on the new dynamic web farm:

  - J2EE session variables are enabled.

PHP5

We are now happy to offer PHP5 on the new dynamic content web farm. This will have a locked down php.ini, which will include:

    ; - safe_mode = On
    ;   For more information read:
    ;   http://www.php.net/features.safe-mode
    ;
    ; - safe_mode_protected_env_vars = LD_LIBRARY_PATH PATH

```
;
; - open_basedir = /ourwebroot/
;
; - disable_functions =  dl, system, include, shell_exec, ;   exec, escapeshellarg,
 escapeshellcmd, passthru,
;   proc_close, proc_open, proc_get_status, proc_nice,
;   proc_open, proc_terminate, popen, pclose, chown,
;   disk_free_space, disk_total_space, diskfreespace,
;   fileinode, max_execution_time, set_time_limit,
;   highlight_file, show_source
;
; - expose_php = Off
;
; - error_log = syslog
;
; - register_globals = Off
;   Read for further information:
;   http://php.net/manual/en/security.registerglobals.php
;
; - display_errors = Off
;
; - log_errors = On
;
; - output_buffering = 4096
;
; - register_argc_argv = Off
;
; - magic_quotes_gpc = On
;
; - variables_order = "GPCS"
;
; - error_reporting = E_ALL
;
; - allow_call_time_pass_reference = Off
;
; - enable_dl = Off
;
; - file_uploads = Off
;
; - allow_url_fopen = Off
```

MySQL 5.0

We are now offering MySQL 5.0 as a database backend for the web3 farm.

Changes to MySQL 5.0 are documented here:

 http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.0/en/news-5-0-x.html

 http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.0/en/news-5-0-18.htm

We will continue to use phpMyAdmin to administer our MySQL databases. The URL for
phpMyAdmin is: http://my.host.name/phpmyadmin

Publishing Information

There are no publishing changes on the new web framework. You will still publish to: http://my.host.name:8080/myweb

Web Stats

We are switching to another web stats program called Webalizer . This program will generate daily stats, and will keep a history of web stats for up to one year. You will be able to access your web stats at: http://my.host.name/stats

We are currently working on an easy way to view subweb stats, but do not have it in place yet.

In Conclusion

We are excited about our new infrastructure, and hope that you will join us in making UNT's web presence vital and exciting for the our students, faculty, and staff. To get involved in beta testing our new services, please send an email to cws@unt.edu requesting more information.

Return to top

Benchmarks Online

Short Courses

By Claudia Lynch, *Benchmarks Online* **Editor**

Surf over to the Short Courses page for a list of courses that are being offered this spring. Classes still available are: New Technologies for Survey Research I, New Technologies for Survey Research II, Getting Started with Dreamweaver, and Moving from FrontPage to Dreamweaver.

Important note for Web Developers: The article "FrontPage Server Extension Phase-out Plan" in the November issue of *Benchmarks Online* sets out a time frame for phasing-out FrontPage extensions. Because of this, an increased number of DreamWeaver short courses are being offered this spring.

Customized Short Courses

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

Especially for Faculty and Staff Members

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

EIS Training

Questions or comments relating to EIS training should be sent to the EISTRN GroupWise account. Upcoming EIS training events may be found at:

- Learning to Use EIS: http://www.unt.edu/eis/WebHelp/EIS_Training/Training_Start.htm

- EIS Timekeeper Training Schedule: http://www.unt.edu/hr/eis/timetrain.htm

- EIS ePro Training Calendar: http://www.unt.edu/pps/trainingcalendar.htm

- Ongoing training is available on WebCT at: http://web2.unt.edu/eis/Training/signup_form.php

GroupWise Training

Information about GroupWise training can be found at the GroupWise Support site. A list of GroupWise 6.5 "Tutorial Topics" can be found here: http://ncs.unt.edu/gw/howto/index.htm A GroupWise 6.5 Training CD-ROM is also available. See "Installing and Using GroupWise 6.5 CD-ROM Training from Thomson NETg" in the June issue of *Benchmarks Online* for more information.

GroupWise 6.5 Seminars

If would like to have a Basic GroupWise seminar for your area, please contact Jason Gutierrez, Network Computing Services, jasong@unt.edu.

Center for Distributed Learning

The Center for Distributed Learning offers courses especially for Faculty Members. A list of topics and further information can be found at http://www.unt.edu/cdl/training_events/index.htm

The center also offers a "Brown Bag" series which meets for lunch the first Thursday of each month at Noon in Chilton 245. The purpose of this group is to bring faculty members together to share their experiences with distributed learning. One demonstration will be made at each meeting by a faculty member with experience in distributed learning. More information on these activities can be found at the Center for Distributed Learning Website.

Technical Training

Technical Training for campus network managers is available, from time to time, through the Network Computing Services (NCS) division of the Computing and Information Technology Center. Check the NCS site to see if and when they are offering any training.

UNT Mini-Courses

There are a variety of courses offered, for a fee, to UNT faculty, staff and students as well as the general public. For additional information surf over to http://www.pware.com/index.cfm?clientid=2694a

Alternate Forms of Training

Many of the General Access Labs around campus have tutorials installed on their computers. The Training Web site has all sorts of information about alternate forms of training. Computer Based Training (CBT) is one of the alternatives offered.

For further information on CBT at UNT, see the CBT website. Note also, two articles in the November issue of *Benchmarks Online*, "Using the Adobe Education Website - Revised November 2005" and "SkillPort and Thomson NETg Offer Easy-to-use Browser Compatibility Testing for Online Learning." The recently published article "Project Management Courses Added to the

 [SkillPort CBT Website"](#) may also be of interest.

The article [Tracking Progress in New KnowledgeNet Courses](#) in the January issue of *Benchmarks Online* gives instructions on how to set up tracking for each course. This information is also available on the [CBT website](#).

[Return to top](#)

Benchmarks Online

Staff Activities

Transitions

New Employee:

- **Hasina Masha Aziz** - Programmer, Student Records Data Systems.

No longer working in the Computing and Information Technology Center:

- **Steven Wilbur**, Microcomputer Consultant, Helpdesk (part-time).

- **Paul Vercher**, Computer Systems Manager, Distributed Learning Support.

Awards, Recognition, Publications, etc.

New Babies!

There must be something in the water over in Marquis Hall ... Congratulations to the new parents:

- **Shane Jester**, Central Web Support Manager, and his wife Letty had a baby girl on 2/26/06 -- Grace Cortez Jester.

- **J.P. Williams**, Central Web Support, and his wife Corina had a baby girl on 3/8/06 -- Cadence Hailey Rendon Williams.

Soaring Eagles

The following people were recognized as Soaring Eagles in the March 2006 *Human Resources Newsletter*. They will receive their awards at the President's Staff Lunch on May 10, 2006:

- **Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner**, Student Computing Services Manager, Academic Computing Services.

- **Jonathan "Mac" Edwards** - Computer Support Specialist, Helpdesk.

[Return to top](#)

Benchmarks Online

Don't Forget Our Monthly Columns!

By Claudia Lynch, *Benchmarks Online* Editor

In addition to our feature articles, *Benchmarks Online* publishes monthly columns that are focused on specific aspects of computing here at UNT (and beyond, in some cases). Check out what is waiting for you this month:

- **RSS Matters** - "RSS Matters" is the monthly column written by the Research and Statistical Support Group in Academic Computing Services. Their articles focus on topics of a statistical and/or research methods nature. **This month, Dr. Rich Herrington gives you detailed instructions on "Bayesian Packages for R version 2.2.1"**

- **The Network Connection** - "The Network Connection" may well be the longest running column in computer publishing history. Certainly in University of North Texas computer publishing history.

  This month, Dr. Baczewski exclaims "Ma! You're Back!" Click on the Network Connection link above to find out what in the world he is talking about.

- **Link of the Month** - As it says on the top of the "Link of the Month" page, "each month we highlight an Internet, USENET Special Interest Group (SIG), or similar mailing list(s) or Website(s)." Lately we have been confining ourselves to featuring UNT specific sites. **This month's feature is "UNT's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) ." Check it out -- win a t-shirt, or an iPod, maybe more!**

- **WWW@UNT.EDU** - "WWW@UNT.EDU" is a monthly column written by the Central Web Support Group in Academic Computing Services. The topics usually focus, in some way, on World-Wide-Web-related issues. **This month Shannon Peevey talks about "Central Web Support: The Next Generation." Read the article and find out how you can be a CWS beta tester.**

- **Short Courses** - Every semester, Academic Computing Services (ACS) offers short courses on computer-related topics, many of them having to do with statistical research. This column keeps you up-to-date on what is being offered and when as well as other training opportunities. The spring Short Course have begun. Surf over to the Short Courses page for a list and description of courses that are being offered. Classes still available are: New Technologies for Survey Research I, New Technologies for Survey Research II, Getting Started with Dreamweaver, and Moving from FrontPage to Dreamweaver.

- **IRC News** - As their Webpage says, "the IRC is an advisory and oversight body created to foster communication and cooperation between and among UNT information resources providers and users." We publish the minutes of the IRC meetings each month, when they are available. **No minutes were available to be published this month.**

- **Staff Activities -** This column focuses on 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. This month there are some new babies to report.

Please note that information published in *Benchmarks Online* is likely to degrade over time, especially links to various Websites. To make sure you have the most current information on a specific topic, it may be best to search the UNT Website - http://www.unt.edu . You can also search **Benchmarks Online** - http://www.unt.edu/benchmarks/archives/back.htm as well as consult the UNT Helpdesk - http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/ Questions and comments should be directed to benchmarks@unt.edu

Return to top