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Questions, comments and corrections for this site: lynch@unt.edu

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Campus Computing News

A New Look for Bulk Mail

By [Dr. Philip Baczewski](#), Director of Academic Computing and User Services



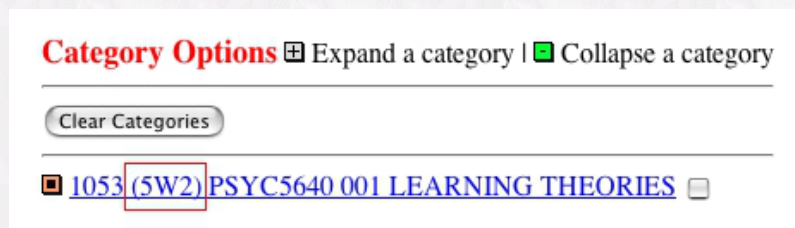
[Bulk Mail](#) sports a new look for the start of this summer. What will be obvious to Bulk Mail users is the new header, which takes advantage of the University's new branding. What is less obvious are some of the structural changes underlying this new version, many of which are made to closely match the new way information is defined in the new [EIS](#) system.

About Bulk Mail

The Bulk Mail System allows [designated individuals](#) to send bulk e-mail to students at UNT. It is designed to better facilitate the distribution of important information to UNT students. Authorized individuals authenticate to the system using their EUID and password. Messages are composed and then sent to students based on course (e.g. BIOL 1001) or based on College, Department, Major and/or classification (e.g. all freshman history majors). All professors are automatically set up to send Bulk Mail to students in their classes.

Attention Professors

Professors will notice additional information when viewing the course selection screen. As seen below, outlined by a red box, in addition to the term code, there is now a session code in parentheses.



This session code indicates one of the various sessions which are now defined within the summer term. Within the Summer 2005 term, defined by EIS code 1053, you may see one of the following sessions:

- 1053 10W - summer 2005, 10 Week Session
- 1053 3W1 - summer 2005, 3 Week Session
- 1053 5W1 - summer 2005, 5 Week Session 1
- 1053 5W2 - summer 2005, 5 Week Session 2
- 1053 8W1 - summer 2005, 8 Week Session

Sessions "5W1" and "5W2" are what we have traditionally known as the Summer I and Summer II terms.

Administrators Take Note

Changes will be seen in the administrative selection menu as well. Vice Presidents, Deans, Department Chairs, and

others are able to address e-mail to students based on their classification or their major. The hierarchy of majors on the right side of the administrative selection menu now reflects the hierarchy in EIS. As the following example illustrates, some majors (academic plans in EIS terms) now fall directly under the level of the College. Bulk Mail now provides a grouping of these under a heading identical to the College name.

Student Options

All Students

All Undergraduate Students

Freshmen

Sophomores

Juniors

Seniors

All Graduate Students

Masters

Doctorates

 Zip Code

Category Options

Expand a category | Collapse a category

Clear Categories

- Academic Administration
- Biomedical Sciences
- College Of Engineering
- College of Arts and Sciences
 - College of Arts and Sciences
 - ANDE
 - AUND
 - EXCH
 - GNST
 - HONORS
 - NSEP
 - PRAR
 - SOSC
 - TAMS
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry

Rights to this selection menu are manually maintained based upon best available information as well as administrator requests. Attempts were made to preserve the existing access during the transition to the new system, however, if you are an administrative user who cannot gain access to a selection you previously could make, please send e-mail to [Dr. Philip Baczewski](mailto:Dr.Philip.Baczewski), Director of Academic Computing and User Services, and the access will be restored.

Look and Feel

In addition to the changes outlined above, attempts have been made to provide a more consistent interface in the Bulk Mail application. This includes the addition of more informative messages at certain points, as well as "Close This Window" buttons to dismiss windows such as the confirmation message once they are no longer needed. Bulk Mail will now also check for an expired EUID password and notify you if that condition exists. If you experience any problems with Bulk Mail, please report them to the CITC Helpdesk (helpdesk@unt.edu). Also, your suggestions for Bulk Mail are always welcome. Please send them to [Dr. Philip Baczewski](mailto:Dr.Philip.Baczewski), Director of Academic Computing and User Services.

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Matlab Comes to Campus

By [Dr. Philip Baczewski](#), Director of Academic Computing and User Services

The CITC Academic Computing Services has secured a campus site license for Matlab and Simulink from Mathworks, inc. Along with these base programs are a number of toolboxes which may be applied to specific problems and processes. The license allows on-campus use by students and research faculty and staff. Research faculty and staff are also allowed home use of the Matlab software under this license.

Included in the base license are the following products:

- MATLAB
- Simulink
- Signal Processing Toolbox
- Control System Toolbox
- Optimization Toolbox
- Statistics Toolbox
- Image Processing Toolbox
- Signal Processing Blockset
- Stateflow
- Data Acquisition Toolbox
- Instrument Control Toolbox
- Curve Fitting Toolbox
- SimMechanics
- Bioinformatics Toolbox

In addition to these, ACS is working with the College of Engineering and College of Arts and Sciences to acquire and provide these additional toolboxes:

- Simulink Control Design
- Wavelet Toolbox
- Fixed-Point Toolbox
- Communications toolbox
- Communications Blockset
- RF Toolbox
- RF Blockset
- Simulink Fixed Point
- Simulink Accelerator
- Partial Differential Equation Toolbox
- Robust Control Toolbox
- Filter Design Toolbox
- Neural Network Toolbox
- Video and Image Processing Blockset
- Matlab Compiler

ACS staff are in the process of making this software available for on-campus and home installation. For further details about this see "Getting up to speed on our new software" in [this issue](#) of *Benchmarks Online*. Also, if you are interested in learning more about Matlab, visit the Mathworks website at <http://www.mathworks.com/>.

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Summer Hours

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

Following are the hours for Computing Center-managed facilities over the summer. The University is [officially closed](#) Independence Day -- July 4, 2005. Additionally:

- The [Helpdesk](#), is planning on being **open their normal hours** during Spring Break.
- The **ACS General Access/Adaptive Lab** ([ISB 110](#)) schedule:

Monday, May 16 - Friday, August 12:

Sundays: 2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Monday - Thursdays: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Fridays: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Closed Monday July 4.

Hours for Other Campus Facilities

General Access Labs

- [WILLIS](#):

May 15-June 2:

Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m.- 9:50 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. - 8:50 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 8:50 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 9:50 p.m.

June 3-5:

Friday, June 3 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 4 9:00 a.m. - 5:50 p.m.

Sunday, June 5 1:00 p.m. - **Resume 24hr schedule** until August 11, when hours will be reduced to a level not yet determined.

- [SLIS](#):

Special Closings:

Friday, May 27

Monday, July 4

Starting Monday, May 16:

Monday - Thursday, 10:00a.m. - 2:00 a.m.
Friday and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Sunday, Noon - Midnight.

- [MUSIC:](#)

Special Closings:

July 4

May 15-June 2:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday: **Closed**

June 6 - August 12:

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- [SCS & SMHM:](#)

Special Closings:

Monday, May 30

Monday, July 4

August 13 - 28

May 16 - August 12:

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Friday - Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, Noon - Midnight.

- [SOVA:](#)

Special Closings:

June 2-5

July 4

August 13-28

May 16 - August 12:

Sunday - 1 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Monday - 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Tuesday - 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Wednesday - 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Thursday - 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Friday - 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday - 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- [COE:](#)

May 16 - August 12:

Normal hours.

- [COBA:](#)

Special Closings:

July 4
August 13-26
August 28

May 16 - August 11:

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 11:50 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - 7:50 p.m.
Sunday: Noon - 11:50 p.m.

August 12, 2005 :

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- [CAS:](#)

GAB 330:

Special Closings:

June 2-5

July 4
August 13-28

May 16 - June 1:

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

June 6 - August 12:

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

GAB 550:

Special Closings:

May 16 - June 1
July 4
August 13 - 28

June 6 - August 12:

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

Terrill 220:

Special Closings:

May 16 - June 1
July 4
August 13 - 28

June 6 - August 12:

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

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

Saturday: **Closed**

Sunday: **Closed**

Wooten 120:

May 16 - June 1:

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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

Saturday: **Closed**

Sunday: **Closed**

Special Closings

June 2 - 5

July 4

July 9

August 13 - 28

June 6 - August 12:

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

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

Saturday: **Closed**

Sunday: **Closed**

- **UNT Dallas Campus- 155A**

Special Closings:

July 4

July 9

August 13

August 20

May 16 - August 12:

Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Friday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed on Sundays

August 15 - 26 - open 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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

Special Closings:

July 4

Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (subject to change).

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Today's Cartoon

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www.glasbergen.com



"I HAVE TO STAY HOME TONIGHT AND HELP MY DAD WITH HIS NEW CAMERA PHONE. WE NEED TO DELETE 750 PICTURES OF HIS HAND."

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

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Network Connection

By [Dr. Philip Baczewski](#), Director of Academic Computing and User Services

Can't we all just get along?

Once upon a time there was just one graphical Web browser. It was called [NCSA Mosaic](#). Mosaic struck out on it's own and became Netscape, but parts of Mosaic live on, incorporated in other Web browsers, including Internet Explorer. Mosaic was followed by a lot of different web browsers, but after a while, most people used Netscape, and some people used Internet Explorer. That is, until Microsoft used its [monopolistic practices](#) to [ensure](#) that most people buying PC's would use Internet Explorer by default. Now, it is assumed that everyone uses Internet Explorer.

These days, however, there are a surprising number of competing Web Browsers. The list includes the upstart [Firefox](#), [Opera](#), [Mozilla](#), [Konqueror](#), Apple's [Safari](#), [Internet Explorer](#), and the hanger-on [Netscape](#). However, just because there are a lot of Web browsers doesn't mean you can actually use any of them on a regular basis. This is illustrated by a description of browser support I received recently for an application we'll call "bleepersoft."

"For the power user, where performance and reliability are key, Internet Explorer 6 is the recommended web browser. The following are the combinations of web browser and client operating systems bleepersoft is certifying for all bleepersoft applications:

- Internet Explorer 6 on Windows 98, NT 4, Windows 2000, and Windows XP
- Internet Explorer 5 and 5.5 on NT 4, Windows 9x, and Windows 2000
- Internet Explorer 5 on Mac OS
- Netscape Communicator 4.7x on NT 4, Windows 9x, Windows 2000, Mac OS, and Linux
- Netscape 7 on NT 4, Windows 98, Windows 2000, Windows XP, Mac OS, and Linux"

So, you'll immediately notice that if you are a "power user" you are expected to run Internet Explorer 6, regardless of whether or not you want to use the Windows operating system. It is hard to believe that any credible technology company would actually list Netscape 4.7 as a supported browser (just try to download that one). But perhaps you're not a power user of bleepersoft.

"For the Casual User, the following browsers are supported for access to bleepersoft applications:

- Internet Explorer 5, 5.5, or 6 on Windows
- Internet Explorer 5 on MacOS
- Netscape Communicator 4.7x, Navigator 6.1, 6.2, or Netscape 7
- Safari on Mac OS X

If you use anything else, it's at your own risk because things like Opera or Mozilla's Firefox, while usable, will give you grief the minute you hit something that it may not be capable of doing with bleepersoft."

It's unfair to pick on bleepersoft alone, however, since this kind of situation is found with many other applications which supposedly are served over the World Wide Web. The bigger problem is that the Web was never designed to serve applications. The [Web](#) was designed to serve information.

The Internet is based on protocols. Protocols are definitions of how applications can interact and exchange information in a standardized method. Open standards protocols are those which are available to all applications, regardless of the developer. The Web protocol defines a way for a Web client (browser) to request information from a Web server and for a Web server to deliver that information. That's the limit of the Web protocol's capability. You ask, you receive, you're done. Applications, however, usually require multiple steps with decisions along the way which are dependent upon one or more transactions which came before.

This problem with applications over the Web as had many attempted solutions: [CGI](#), [JavaScript](#), [Java](#), [ActiveX](#), [SOAP](#), [Zope](#), and probably more than we can name here. The most common of the most complex application environments may be Java and ActiveX, both of which are tightly controlled by a couple of competing corporations, Sun Microsystems and Microsoft.

Java is supported on most operating systems, but better supported on some than others. Sun has done a poor job, however, of ensuring that different versions of Java can support the same applications (it doesn't seem that they've even tried). ActiveX is only supported in Internet Explorer (surprise). But in addition to all that, many Web applications tend to be written for a specific browser and web application environment, making general access even more restricted.

The development of the Internet was a public effort. It was supported by the people of the United States via their government agencies. It was developed in an environment of competition and cooperation, allowing the best practices to be absorbed into open standards which still serve us well. We will not see that same innovation in an environment controlled by monopolistic corporations.

Should we give up on Web applications? They've certainly changed the way we do a lot of our business and have positively affected many aspects of our 21st-century life. A better approach would be to find ways to allow many people to explore styles of Web interaction. One solution is to stop buying applications which only support one brand of browser. Insist on open standards. Otherwise, we might as well start calling it the World Wide Internet Explorer. Microsoft would like that.

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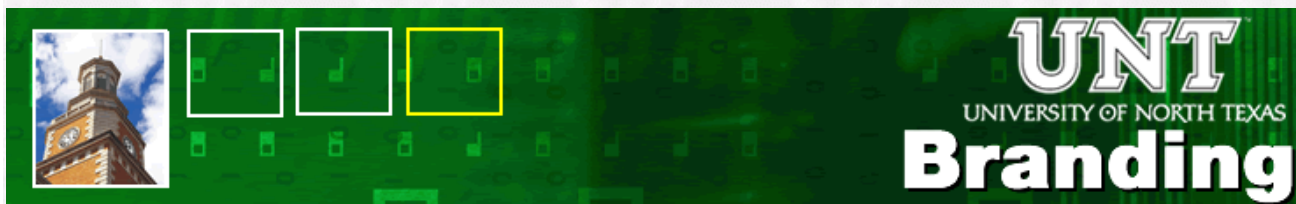
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Link of the Month

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



As you may have [heard](#), UNT has an updated look and it comes in the form of a brand. "What is a brand and why should I care?", you may be saying to yourself. The branding [website](#) answers that question for you:

Branding is determining the essence of your institution and communicating it.

Branding helps clearly communicate our **heritage**. UNT has a long tradition of exceptional programs and diverse opportunities that many other institutions do not. Branding also captures and communicates **our distinct personality**.

That essence is, really, the promise the UNT community lives every day -- whether you are a current or former student, on the faculty or staff. A [tagline, marks and other messages](#) simply help us **talk about ourselves clearly and consistently**.

Although the updated style guide hasn't been released yet, the branding website does have some links to get you started with the new images:

- Images for academic (internal) use: <http://www.unt.edu/branding/imagemarks.htm>
- Images for spirit (non-academic) use: <http://www.unt.edu/branding/imagemarksspirit.htm>

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IRC News



Minutes provided by Sue Ellen Richey,
Recording Secretary*

April 19, 2005

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: PHILIP TURNER, CLAUDIA LYNCH (for ELIZABETH HINKLE-TURNER), JONEEL HARRIS, PAUL HONS (for JUDITH ADKISON), RAMU MUTHIAH, JIM CURRY, GUILLERMO OYARCE, MIKE HATCH (for CENGIZ CAPAN), WIL CLARK (for JOHN PRICE), PATRICK PLUSCHT, SANDRA TERRELL **NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** MAURICE LEATHERBURY, PHILIP BACZEWSKI, JOE ADAMO, SUE ELLEN RICHEY (Recording Secretary) **MEMBERS ABSENT:** ROBERT NIMOCKS, CHRISTY CRUTSINGER, BRUCE HUNTER, MAX KAZEMZADEH, DON GROSE, MARGARET AMBUEHL, CHUCK FULLER, LOU ANN BRADLEY, JON NELSON, COY HOGGARD, KENN MOFFITT, KATHY SWIGGER, ABRAHAM JOHN, DOUG MAINS, BOBBY CARTER **GUESTS:** CHARLOTTE RUSSELL

Distributed Computing Support Management Team**

Philip Baczewski reported for the Distributed Computing Support Management Team that the group met on April 1 and April 15. It was reported that the Adobe contract is being converted to standalone licenses; therefore, an accurate count of licenses in each department will be needed from network managers by May 15, 2005. An Adobe student software sales agreement is in place and selected Adobe software is being sold at the University Store, with particular interest by students in the Creative Suite. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner reported to the Planning group that updated SkillSoft Courseware is now available. Adobe Photoshop 7 training is still on the SkillSoft courses, but all other Adobe training is being provided on the Adobe Education site.

Philip further reported that the ad hoc committee looking at PDA Synchronization has completed its work for now. Most testing has been on Palm OS, since not many volunteers had Windows Pocket PC devices. The College of Education has decided to standardize on Portamail (<http://www.quartzdevelopment.com/>). The Novell GroupWise PDA synchronization product still has some operational problems. If the Novell product has updated versions at a later time, DCSMT will revisit this software based on feedback from the Network Computing Services department of the CITC.

Philip further reported that some departments have taken advantage of an offer by Dell to provide two printers for the price of one. Dell is developing a web-based universal printer management tool which may be used to manage its and other brands of printers.

Awards committee

Patrick Pluscht reported that the awards committee is in the middle of determining who, of the 15 nominees, will receive the awards for on-line teaching excellence. In

addition, there was a demo by TurnItIn.com on how it will integrate with WebCT, hopefully by Fall semester.

Learning Enhancement Planning Group

The Learning Enhancement Planning Group met as a group for the first time on March 24th, and discussed setting up sub-committees for prioritization and needs analysis; one for evaluation, and other ad hoc technology groups to look into different technologies that might be deployed. The group will meet the 4th Thursday of each month.

Patrick asked that if anyone is familiar with the product, Outlook, please contact him. They need assistance with a mass mail merge.

Communications Planning Group

Lou Ann Bradley was not present so there was no report from the Communications Planning Group. Joe Adamo noted that the Communications group has been discussing the problems at the Library Annex. Lou Ann asked Joe to mention that the Planning Group needs a new charge. The Chair said he would speak with Lou Ann about this.

EIS Planning Group

Joneel Harris reported for the EIS Planning Group that the first EIS Users Group meeting was held last week. This group is a recreation of the old AIS Users Group. The new group includes product family heads, module leads, and technical team leads as well as some key people in the AIM group in CITC. The focus was on the information received at the HEUG conference and afterwards. The group began discussing the planning for upgrades; there are 4 potential upgrades that may occur between 2006 and 2010, if Oracle stays on track. There is an upgrade of Finance to V. 8.8 that is available now, and a Learning Solutions upgrade to V. 8.9; and there is a 9.0 release for Learning Solutions and from there to Oracle's fusion product, which is proposed to be the best of both the PeopleSoft product and the Oracle product. Initial discussion was to target the 2006 Spring semester to possibly begin the upgrade for Finance and Learning Solutions.

The Chair asked about the progress of resolving the report issues in the EIS system. Joneel responded by saying that some of the employees of the PeopleSoft Services group that were contracted with for the reporting data system modules have formed a company and would really like to come in and do UNT's reporting work. They need an institutional project, so they have been conferencing about the possibility of providing help with Financial reporting in a pilot project. SAS has also been contacted regarding their reporting products. When at a SAS conference recently, Joneel met a UNT graduate who is now a SAS employee and whose experience is in financial reporting. He actually volunteered his time as a UNT alum to come in and help. He said he thought that SAS offers the most complete and robust business intelligent tool platform. Maurice Leatherbury added that he has been giving a lot of attention to the reporting issue and is pushing the data warehousing solution. A new machine is on order which will provide a more robust platform. He said CITC is pushing Crystal Reports or Cognos' solution for the data warehouse. Joneel commented that the SAS product has capabilities for the Student module that neither the Crystal Reports nor the Cognos product have, and stated that there is room for all three.

Student Computing Planning Group

Claudia Lynch reported for the Student Computing Planning Group that the new General Access Lab signs are in the final stages of production, and the PC printer counter monitoring software order should go out this week.

WebCT

The Chair reported that new load balancers have been installed and running on the WebCT Vista test servers and many of the problems attributed to the Radware have been resolved. The latest service pack of WebCT Vista has been installed and that is also running on the test server and the decision has been made not to switch over until after final exams. In May, both of those will go on the production machines and hopefully the last of the remaining issues can be checked off. They are, at this time, inviting faculty to migrate to Vista. There could, of course, be more issues when this goes into the production machines.

In response to a question from Philip Baczewski, Dr. Turner stated that the date for cutoff of Web CT Campus Edition will be May 31, 2006, but it is hoped that people will migrate as soon as possible.

* 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. All meetings of the IRC, its program groups, and other committees, are open to all faculty, staff, and students.

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Research and Statistical Support University of North Texas

RSS Matters

Link to the last RSS article here: [Stata 9: Stata Reloaded](#) - Ed.

Getting up to speed on our new software

By [Patrick McLeod](#), Research and Statistical Support Services Consultant

As Spring turns into Summer in North Texas, more than just the seasons are changing in the Research and Statistical Support office in Academic Computing Services. We have four new pieces of software that we are working on rolling out for the UNT research community: New versions of SPSS, S-Plus and Stata and a new product (that many of you probably already know), [Matlab](#). Unfortunately, while we have new software for the Summer, we also have new complications: The new versions of SPSS and S-Plus both make use of licensing management software that node-locks each installation.

For individual installations (office computers, authorized users' home computers and standalone workstations), node-locked licensing does not present a problem as long as the computer has an active internet connection at the time of installation. For network licenses, however, different arrangements must be made to correctly install and run both the statistical software and the license management software.

SPSS 13 for Windows, SPSS 11.0.2 for OS-X

SPSS 13 for Windows makes use of the Sentinel License Manager, a new product feature that was not present in prior versions of SPSS. At the present time, RSS and the ACS Lab are investigating possible alternative ways to implement the Sentinel License Manager for our network license for Windows. SPSS 13 is available for checkout and installation by authorized individuals. Per the terms of our contract with SPSS, "authorized individuals" are deemed to be full-time, benefits-eligible faculty and staff members of UNT. Teaching fellows, teaching assistants, research assistants and students are not eligible under any circumstances to check out SPSS for their use; any non full-time, benefits-eligible faculty member or staff member who wants to check out SPSS but intends to send a graduate assistant or student to pick up the CDs will need to make prior phone arrangements or email arrangements with an RSS staff

member or provide a signed note for the graduate assistant or student to pass along to RSS. All non-eligible members of the UNT community can purchase the SPSS Grad Pack at the UNT Bookstore; the Grad Pack also includes the popular structural equation modeling package AMOS in addition to SPSS. The SPSS Grad Pack is \$180 and is licensed to function for four years from installation.

SPSS 11.0.2 is also available for check-out to eligible faculty and staff members for OS-X. One important technical note: **While SPSS 11.0.2 works with OS-X “Jaguar,” according to SPSS it will not work with the newest version of OS-X, “Tiger.” SPSS has not provided a resolution timeline for bringing 11.0.2 up to Tiger standards. As of this writing, SPSS will not be bringing 11.0.2 up to Tiger standards; instead, SPSS has announced that Tiger will be supported in SPSS 13 for OS-X which is due in Fall 2005.**

Contact [Dr. Richard Herrington](#), [Dr. Mike Clark](#) or [Patrick McLeod](#) in the ACS Research and Statistical Support office with any questions about SPSS 13 for Windows or SPSS 11.0.2 for OS-X.

S-Plus 7 for Windows, Unix and Solaris

Last month, Insightful Corporation released the first full point release upgrade to S-Plus in a couple years' time. S-Plus 7 makes use of Macrovision Corporation's FLEXlm license manager to uniquely identify each installation of S-Plus 7. S-Plus-7 is available on the same terms as SPSS for eligible faculty and staff members for check-out and installation. Under the terms of our license arrangement with Insightful Corporation, RSS does copy CDs licensed under a Student Edition serial number that are available for student purchase in the UNT Bookstore. S-Plus Student Edition CDs are fully-functional versions of S-Plus 7 that have a license period of 115 days.

S-Plus 7 is also available for Unix platforms and for the Solaris platform. As of May 13, 2005, RSS is still awaiting the arrival of media for the Unix and Solaris versions of S-Plus 7 and the network license codes for the Windows version of S-Plus 7.

Contact [Dr. Richard Herrington](#), ACS Research Manager, with any questions about S-Plus 7.

Stata 9 for Windows, Unix, Solaris and OS-X

Stata Corporation of College Station Texas released Stata 9 at the end of April. Stata 9 incorporates a significant number of new methods over previous versions of Stata and it adds the entirely-new Mata matrix programming language. Stata is licensed in a different way than our other statistical packages maintained and supported by RSS. There is a 30-seat “Educational Lab” license that is accessible via the ACS Gauss server for network access. Beyond this license, UNT is part of Stata's “GradPlan” system. Under the GradPlan, faculty, staff and students of UNT can purchase Stata at a discounted rate (a deeper discount than the academic pricing!) for either one-year (students only) or perpetual licenses. Since RSS maintains a stock of Stata merchandise at UNT, orders can be processed by Stata and then picked up from the RSS office located in the Information Sciences Building. Typical turnaround is 24 to 48

hours during the working week. Stata is not available for check-out from the RSS office.

Stata 9 (in Small, Intercooled and SE (Special Edition) formats) is available for Windows, Unix, Solaris and OS-X operating systems. I've successfully installed and run Stata 9 SE on Windows XP, Debian linux and OS-X (both Jaguar and Tiger).

Contact [Patrick McLeod](#), ACS Research Consultant, with any questions you might have about Stata 9.

Matlab 7.0.3 (Release 14)

Research and Statistical Support is proud to announce the introduction of support for Matlab 7.0.3 (Release 14) for Windows, Unix and OS-X. Matlab is a powerful scientific computing and mathematical computing package from The MathWorks of Boston, Massachusetts. While certain colleges have had licenses for Matlab in the past, centralizing our Matlab license into a campus license will allow the entire UNT research community to benefit from Matlab's power.

Our license for Matlab is very flexible: Matlab may be installed on any university-owned computer attached to UNT's network whether this computer is assigned to a professor, a staff member or a graduate student. Unlike some of our other statistical package licenses, Matlab's license does not discriminate based on the university employee's FTE or status as a graduate student. In addition, all professors and staff members can install Matlab on a home machine or laptop for the purposes of conducting research. Under the terms of our contract, students cannot install Matlab on any non-university, non-network computers.

Based on calculations made by The MathWorks and UNT, our license caps our total usage at 5,660 "seats" or 5,660 individual instances of Matlab. While that does seem like a large number of seats, when you consider Matlab being distributed across two campuses of roughly 35,000 potentially eligible individuals, those seats can run out fast. For that reason, we will be tracking Matlab checkout and installation via the Remedy system much as we track SPSS, SAS and S-Plus checkout and installation via Remedy.

Contact [Patrick McLeod](#), ACS Research Consultant, with any questions you might have about Matlab.

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Apache 2.1 Failings: mod_authnz_ldap and mod_authn_file Part II

By [Shannon Eric Peevey](#), UNT Central Web Support

Introduction

In last month's [article](#), I showed you how to download and configure Apache 2.1 from Subversion. In this month's article, we are going to discuss the changes to our authentication configuration options, and how they are used to cause Apache to use mod_authn_file, (the new name for the authentication phase portion of mod_auth), for authenticating users.

mod_authn_file

I think it would be easier to look at the full code example and then discuss the differences between Apache 2.0 configuration, and that of Apache 2.1.

```
Alias /publish /usr/local/apache21/htdocs
```

```
<Location /publish>
```

```
AuthType Basic
```

```
AuthName "Stinky monkey!!"
```

```
AuthBasicProvider file
```

```
### begin of mod_authn_file ####
```

```
AuthUserFile /usr/local/apache21/access/password
```

```
AuthGroupFile /usr/local/apache21/access/htgroup
```

```
### end of mod_authn_file ####
```

```
require group admin
```

```

Dav On

Options None

ForceType text/plain

</Location>

```

In this example, you see that we have aliased the webroot to /publish. This would allow web developers to connect to a specific URL, and by appending /publish to the end, bypass any dynamic content engine, (which is useful for webDAV publishing). We need to do this, because we are using dynamic content for our site, and if we don't set the option "ForceType text/plain", the web server will return all files requested by a GET to the web developer as rendered HTML. (This is caused by the fact that webDAV uses HTTP calls to grab files from the remote web server. At the present time, there is only one GET call in the HTTP protocol, which is used by both web browsers and webDAV clients, and the server interprets calls from both clients as a call for the rendered web page. Without ForceType text/plain, the web server receives the GET, sends the file through the correct interpreter, (ie PHP), and sends out the rendered HTML. With ForceType text/plain, the web server receives the GET, bypasses the call to the programming language interpreter, and sends out the source code for the file). By the way, this usage of <Location> directive is not recommended for controlling access to directories, (we are using it for example purposes only). For more information as to why this is not recommended, see:

<http://httpd.apache.org/docs-2.0/mod/core.html#location>

Now, let's split out the mod_authn_file specific elements from the <Location> container. This is exactly like the configuration for mod_auth in Apache 2.0, except for the addition of the directive AuthBasicProvider.

```

AuthType Basic

AuthName "Stinky monkey!!"

AuthBasicProvider file

### begin of mod_authn_file ####

AuthUserFile /usr/local/apache21/access/password

AuthGroupFile /usr/local/apache21/access/htgroup

### end of mod_authn_file #####

require group admin

```

AuthBasicProvider is the directive that tells Apache which type of authentication backend to use. Though the docs at:

http://httpd.apache.org/docs-2.1/mod/mod_auth_basic.html#authbasicprovider

supposedly contains links to lists of accepted providers, the links given do not actually give any list of providers. In next month's article, I will give you the provider for ldap, and for this month, it is enough to know that authentication with the oft-used htpasswd and htgroup files is designated as provider "file". The list of providers for AuthBasicProvider is a space delimited list, so multiple provider would look like this:

```
AuthBasicProvider provider1 provider2 provider3
```

After you have set AuthBasicProvider to file, your AuthUserFile/AuthGroupFile directives to the correct htpasswd and htgroup files, and your AuthType/AuthName, save your changes and restart Apache. (See: <http://httpd.apache.org/docs-2.1/howto/auth.html> for more information on how to setup your AuthUserFile and AuthGroupFiles). Point your favourite browser to: <http://localhost/publish> and you should be prompted for your username and password. If you have troubles getting into the protected directory, check your error_log files for more specific information as to what is causing the problem.

Conclusion

In this month's article, we have discussed how to configure "basic authentication" for Apache 2.1. In next month's article, we are going to configure Apache 2.1 to use LDAP for authentication, and then the month after that, we will discuss how to DECLINE from mod_authn_file/mod_authz_groupfile to mod_authnz_ldap. Enjoy!!

Provider List

After concluding this article, I made a list of available providers for stable authentication modules, they are:

- Anonymous authentication (much like FTP) = mod_authn_anon = "anon"
- DBM file authentication = mod_authn_dbm = "dbm"
- htpasswd/htgroup authentication = mod_authn_file = "file"
- LDAP authentication = mod_authnz_ldap = "ldap"

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Short Courses

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

The schedule for the summer Short Courses hasn't been completed yet. Surf over to the [Short Courses](#) page to see the types of classes likely to be offered. The Short Courses page will be undated as soon as the summer schedule is set and a GroupWise "everyone" message will be sent announcing the schedule.

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

Electronic Procurement (ePro) Training

As many of you are aware, the electronic procurement (ePro) module of EIS has been implemented. We have discontinued the use of paper requisition forms as of September 1, 2004.

ePro requires training for both the ePro Coordinator (individual performing entry/creation/tracking of the purchasing requisition) and the DeptID and/or the Project Holder (Approver). Computer security will not be established until individuals have completed the required training.

At this time, classes will be conducted at the Research Park, EIS Training Room. Directions given at time of registration. Please note: We reserve the right to cancel or change the training location for class attendance under 3.

Next classes are scheduled for Tuesday 05/03/05 or 05/17/05,, note the times below:

Approvers:

2:00 PM to 3:00 PM,

3:00 PM to 4:00 PM,

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Coordinators

8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Please e-mail Tina Koenig, tinak@unt.edu, indicating the time you plan to attend and for which class.

If you have not submitted an ePro DeptID Holder Information Form or an ePro Coordinators Information Form, please fill the form out on-line and attach it to your email requesting registration. This is necessary in order to establish security for your use of the system.

GroupWise Training

Information about GroupWise training can be found at the GroupWise course [site](#).

GroupWise 6.5 Seminars

If you 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 article [New and Improved SkillSoft Online Training Available to Faculty, Staff and Students](#) in the April of *Benchmarks Online*. Additionally, consult the articles [New and Improved Microsoft Elearning Titles Available to Faculty and Staff](#) in the February issue of *Benchmarks Online* and [Computer-based Training Curriculum Update](#) in the January, 2005 issue.

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Staff Activities

Transitions

New Employee:

- **Patrick Schaidler**, Computer Systems Manager, Unix Support Services.

No longer working in the Computing and Information Technology Center:

- **Travis Brown**, Network Computing Services.
- **Misty Wells**, Portal Administrator, Central Web Support.
- **Jasmine Tan**, programmer on EIS project.

Awards, Recognition, Publications, etc.

Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, Student Computing Services Manager, received a service award from the Society for Electroacoustic Music in the United States for her over 10 years of service on its board. This was given April 16 at the annual conference at Ball State University in Muncie, IN.

Moss in the news

Samantha Moss, CITC Administrative Assistant, was in the news again (click [here](#) to see a previous article), with a feature article on her band, jetscreamer, in the April 20 [issue](#) of the North Texas Daily. She was also mentioned favorably in this April 12th NT Daily [article](#), and was noted as the managing editor of "Denton's newest alternative magazine dedicated to its celebrated local music scene" in [this article](#) in the same NT Daily issue.

Outstanding Employee

Eric Duchemin, Team Leader, Oracle Database Administrator, EIS Project, was honored as the Outstanding Employee from Fiscal Affairs at the President's Staff Sack Lunch on May 5.

Running for life

Linda Wallace, Programmer/Analyst on the Student Records Data Systems

Team, and her daughter Eriel, also an employee at UNT, were [featured](#) in the May 6 "Portrait Gallery" in *Inhouse*. They ran a marathon together in February to benefit leukemia, lymphoma research.

Soaring Eagles

Stormy Shippy, CITC LAN Technical Assistant and **Scott Windham**, Communications Analyst, Data Communications, were recognized as "Soaring Eagles" in the May/June 2005 issue of the *Human Resources Newsletter*. Shippy "helped an employee work from home by using a technique that saves employees a trip to campus after hours." Windham, along with Mark Withers, of the School of Library and Information Sciences, "worked diligently to set up a portable video conference for the UAEM-UNT Academic Liaison Office dedication."

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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, Patrick McLeod helps you get "up to speed on our new software."**
- [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 talks about web browsers and asks the eternal question, "Can't we all just get along?"

- [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 Branding.**
- [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 continues a multi-part series on Apache 2.1. Part II is called "Apache 2.1 Failings: mod_authnz_ldap and mod_authn_file."**
- [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 schedule for the summer Short Courses hasn't been completed yet, but other training opportunities are highlighted here.
- [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. **The April 19, 2005 minutes are 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.

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