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## **Campus Computing News**

### What Every UNT Student Should Know About Computing Services

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

This article last appeared in the <u>August, 2005 issue</u> of Benchmarks Online. It has been edited slightly for this issue. Also of interest is the <u>Helpdesk</u> "Quick Guide to Computing Resources at UNT." -- Ed.

It is that time of year again: endless freshman, graduate, and transfer student orientations. Lots of students and parents to meet and greet and to inform about all of the many computing services available to them at UNT. After reading a general message to everyone about looking out for these students and helping them as they make their way in their new campus environment, I thought I would give readers a 'head's up' about some basic computing facts that every student needs to know. I give this presentation to all incoming students and their parents but any and all readers may get asked these questions also. Here is your Student Computing Guide for 2006!

The Computing and Information Technology Center and its associates offer a wide range of services to registered students. These include: Internet and E-mail accounts, the my.unt.edu portal for registering for classes and paying bills, the general access computer labs, extensive digital file storage resources, wireless networking, free virus protection, tons of computing training, and the every-ready helpdesk. In addition, Housing offers the high-speed ResNet residential computing network.



Every student is given an E-mail (EagleMail) account. This account is the official means of communication between the university and the students. EagleMail can be accessed at <a href="http://Eaglemail.unt.edu">http://Eaglemail.unt.edu</a>. All students should read their EagleMail regularly. If a student already has an E-mail account from someplace like Hotmail or AOL, they can easily forward their EagleMail to that preferred address by going to the Account Management Page at <a href="http://ams.unt.edu">http://ams.unt.edu</a>. This site is invaluable for many other student account services too like changing their enterprise password and checking to see when their current password will expire.



http://my.unt.edu is pretty much 'command central' for many of the registration-and-payment-related activities a student will do. This portal is designed to provide a central web location where UNT community members can access the Enterprise Information System (EIS) and other available online services using a single login. Current UNT Students can use my.unt.edu online services to register for classes, view their course descriptions and pay for tuition. UNT Admission and Financial Aid Applicants can check their admission and financial aid status once UNT creates and sends them an EUID.



The Music Lab has a lot of specialized hardware and software for music majors and music enthusiasts

Even if a student brings a computer to campus, he or she will most likely use the General Access Computer Labs. Students take advantage of the labs' free printing services and also use the labs to access expensive and highlyspecialized hardware and software they may need for their major work. The UNT system has 14 general access computer labs including one at the Research Park and one at the Dallas Campus. The labs feature both Windows and Macintosh systems with the highest concentration of Macintosh computers being in the labs located in the Music and Art buildings. The standard software on all machines includes Internet Explorer, Netscape, and Mozilla Firefox browsers as well as the most up-to-date versions of Microsoft Office. A valid UNT student ID card is needed to access these labs. Students should not forget their ID card as they will not be allowed in the labs otherwise. Below is a listing of all the lab locations and some special information about some of them:

- Art 232
- Business 333 335
- Chilton 255
- GAB 330
- GAB 550
- ISB 110 (has all "adaptive" and special needs equipment)
- ISB 205C (Graduate Students Only)
- · Matthews 309
- Music 238
- Research Park B129 (Engineering General Access Lab )
- System Center Dallas 155A
- Terrill 220
- Willis Library (open 24 hours)
- Wooten 120

### **UNT Student Storage**

UNT Student Storage, located at http://untss.unt.edu, allows students to upload their documents to a centralized digital storage location for safe-keeping and for access to them at any and all other locations. For example, a student could finish writing a paper on their computer in their dorm room, upload it via the easy-to-use web interface to UNTSS, go to a general access lab, and print the paper on one of the lab's nice laser printers to turn in. The greatest thing about this is that it obviates the need for unreliable and virus-prone floppy discs. Each student has 100 MB of storage space.

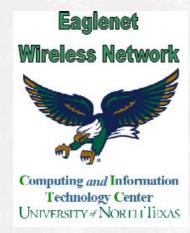


# Resnet UNT's Residential Network



ResNet is the residential ethernet network offered by Housing in all of the dorms and in many surrounding apartment complexes. The ResNet helpdesk number for more information is 940-369-7766 and their website is located at http://www.unt.edu/resnet. ResNet is quite easy to activate for most folks; all one needs is an ethernet card and cable (the cables are for sale in the dorms). Students are **strongly discouraged** from using this great high-speed service to download copyrighted materials! Hollywood regularly scans such networks and the ResNet folks will disconnect your machine if Hollywood calls them and tells them something like, "The computer with IP address 129.xxx.xxx.xx has

'Revenge of the Sith' on it!" A student may be liable for prosecution by Hollywood as has been evidenced by several high-profile cases at other universities. (just wait for 'Sith' to come out on DVD ok?)



The Eaglenet Wireless website located at <a href="http://www.unt.edu/wireless">http://www.unt.edu/wireless</a> states: "The University of North Texas Computing and Information Technology Center is pleased to bring you Eaglenet, the wireless network at UNT. Eaglenet is available in selected buildings on the Denton Campus and in selected areas in the Research Park. Eaglenet supports the wireless IEEE 802.11b standard that allows you to connect your wireless network equipped laptop or other device to the network without cumbersome cables or wires at speeds up to 11Mbps." Access to the Eaglenet wireless network is accomplished by opening up a browser and logging in with one's EUID and iServices password.



The Graduate Student General Access Lab

Faculty, staff, and students can now download VirusScan 8 to use on their home computers. The software can now be downloaded from <a href="http://www.unt.edu/security/antivirus">http://www.unt.edu/security/antivirus</a> using their EUID and Internet Services (EagleMail) Password. It can also be purchased on CD-ROM at the university bookstore for \$3.00. All campus wide virus alerts and other campus virus information can be found at this website. This site should be checked often by students. A frequently updated online manual on all security issues, computing issues and computer etiquette is available at <a href="http://www.unt.edu/security">http://www.unt.edu/security</a>.





Our super-powered Helpdesk staff are always ready to help you!

The super-powered UNT CITC Helpdesk staff is always ready to help university community members with their computing needs. New students and their parents are encouraged to contact the Helpdesk before even coming to campus if they have specific computing questions. The phone number of the Helpdesk is 940-565-2324. Their website is located at <a href="http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk">http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk</a> and they can be E-mailed at <a href="helpdesk@unt.edu">helpdesk@unt.edu</a>. They offer software support, tutorials, and help with all Internet and E-mail accounts. They are also the folks to call with questions about WebCT online courses. Folks are welcome to walk-in to the desk area in ISB 119 during regular business hours.

Many training opportunities are available to students also. Information about short courses in specific applications and printed tutorials can be found at <a href="http://www.unt.edu/training">http://www.unt.edu/training</a>. Additionally, lots of online training in Microsoft, Adobe, and Macromedia products as well as the Linux operating system and several server-based utilities can be found on our computer-based training website at <a href="http://www.unt.edu/cbt">http://www.unt.edu/cbt</a>. For more advanced students in statistics courses, help can be gained through Research and Statistical Support services. Check out their website at <a href="http://www.unt.edu/rss">http://www.unt.edu/rss</a>.



The labs can get busy around exam time - plan accordingly!

This article should provide all UNT community members with the facts they need to help incoming students and their parents during the summer orientations and in the opening days of fall. If anyone has any further questions, the best place to call is always our Helpdesk at 940-565-2324.

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## **Summer Hours**

#### By Claudia Lynch, Benchmarks Online Editor

The spring semester ended Friday, May 12. SUM, 3WK1, 8WK1 classes\* began on Monday, May 15. Following are the hours for Computing and Information Technology Center-managed facilities this summer. The Helpdesk plans, at this point, to be open their normal hours. The University is officially closed for Independence Day, July 4.

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

#### May 14 - August 11

Sundays: 1 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.

Monday - Thursdays: 8 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.

Fridays: 8 a.m. - 8:45 p.m. Saturdays" 10 a.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Special Closings:

Independence Day: July 4

## **Hours for Other Campus Facilities\*\***

#### **General Access Labs**

• WILLIS:

Open 24/7 until Monday July 3. Close at 9:50 p.m. July 3, re-open Wednesday, July 5 at 7:30 a.m. *returning to our 24hr schedule*.

• SLIS:

Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday: Noon - 10 p.m.

• MUSIC:

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

Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

• PACS Computing Center (formerly SCS & SMHM):

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

#### **Special Closings:**

Independence Day: July 4 Semester Break: August 12 - 27

#### • SOVA:

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

Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday, Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### • <u>COE</u>:

Monday, May 15 - Thursday, August 10: Regular hours.

Friday, August 11: Close at 4 p.m.

#### **Special Closings:**

Semester Break: August 12 - 27

#### • COBA:

Monday, May 15 - Thursday, August 10: Regular hours.

#### **Special Closings:**

July 3: Closing early by 4 p.m. for July 4th Independence Day: July 4

August 11: Closing early by 4 p.m. for break Semester Break: August 12 - 25

#### • <u>CAS</u>:

#### **GAB 330:**

Monday, June 5 (5 Week 1-5W1) - Friday, August 11 (5 Week 2 - 5W2):

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

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

#### **Special Closings:**

Independence Day: July 4

Semester Break: August 12 - 27

#### **GAB 550:**

Monday, June 5 (5 Week 1-5W1) - Friday, August 11 (5 Week 2 - 5W2):

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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

#### **Special Closings:**

Independence Day: July 4

Semester Break: August 12 - 27

#### Terrill 220:

Monday, June 5 (5 Week 1-5W1) - Friday, August 11 (5 Week 2 - 5W2):

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

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

#### **Special Closings:**

Independence Day: July 4

Semester Break: August 12 - 27

#### Wooten 120:

Monday, June 5 (5 Week 1-5W1) - Friday, August 11 (5 Week 2 - 5W2):

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

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

#### **Special Closings:**

Independence Day: July 4

Semester Break: August 12 - 27

#### • UNT <u>Dallas Campus</u> - 155A

Monday, May 15 - Friday, August 11:

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

Friday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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

Monday, May 15 - Friday, August 11:

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

Saturday: Closed Sunday: Closed

Fridays may become closed days or shorter hours, depending on classes/needs.

- \* Terminology and schedules for classes offered in the summer has changed in recent years:
  - SUMmer=Entire Summer Session, 3WK1 = 3-week 1, 8WK1=8-week 1, 5WK1= 5-week 1, 10WK1= 10-week, 5WK2= 5-week 2. All summer sessions end on August 11 this year.
  - Summer Session 3W1: formerly May Minimester
  - Summer Session 5W1: formerly Summer I
  - Summer Session 5W2: formerly Summer II.
- \*\* Hours for additional areas and services are discussed in this recent *InHouse* article, "Operating hours to change for many campus services during summer".

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# Network Connecti**อ๊**ก

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

#### The Once and Future Internet

A colleague recently forwarded an essay for my consideration, suggesting that it might be worthy of reprint in this journal. The essay was "WHO'S KILLING HIGHER EDUCATION? (OR IS IT SUICIDE?)", by Steve Talbott, published online in 1998 in an online journal named Netfuture. Talbott, a technical author for O'Reilly media, proposed that information technology would have an effect on higher education, but not necessarily a positive one. He posed that education was being transformed into a process of information transfer, which, in the future, would make teachers and schools "superfluous."

It's now the future and we have a chance to assess the path that information technology has laid for higher education. But first, I was curious to see what I was saying in this column in 1998. Topics included controlling SPAM, filtering e-mail, and the contest between Web browsers. It seems that nothing has changed since 1998. My rhetorical question about the Internet in 1998 was,

Will it be a thriving and egalitarian international communications and commerce media, as accessible in libraries as it is in executive offices? Or will it be "television," A.K.A. a "wasteland" of commercial and meaningless information driving a consumption-based economy and culture, filling the coffers of a few very rich companies and people?

This question is still in the process of being answered, as we see in the recent debate about <u>net neutrality</u>.

Returning to the article by Steve Talbott, I don't find that many of his "predictions" have come to pass or that the role of computing in education has substantially changed. Perhaps one change is the increased use of Internet technology as a transfer medium for information. But if you fault the transfer technology and confound it with the actual education, then you must also throw out the printing press and all the books that have ever been published. Most of the discussions I've heard in regard to using IT as a educational medium are exactly about how NOT to just rely on it as an information transfer medium. In other words, a stale lecture read from transparencies is not transformed by its transfer to PowerPoint or the Web.

While I'm sympathetic to some of the author's points, I don't see the significance of his eventual point:

I envision an education where students gather around a teacher because they find his life to be a pathway to new understanding.

••

As to the computer, I imagine it will find its genuine, supportive role only to the degree we gain deliverance from the silly notion that it is educationally decisive.

I don't think that the former statement is necessarily mutually exclusive to current higher education. The best teachers are those who do share themselves as well as their knowledge with their students. The best teachers attract a community of learners, and that community now can extend beyond a single room, thanks to current Internet technology.

I also don't think that many other than those within the world of media hype ever believed that computers and IT were some kind of ultimate educational solution (I didn't/don't). This article seems to be in reaction to the media hype that was very common in the late 90's and during the Internet boom. The irony is that if any technology would enable what the author describes as "curriculum ... determined by the teachers themselves, out of their direct experience with students, rather than by remote administrators...," the Internet, assuming that it is not subsumed by government regulation, has more promise to support such a movement than waiting for such groups to gather under trees.

Talbott is also the author of a late-90's book entitled, <u>The Future does not Compute:</u> <u>Transcending the Machines in Our Midst</u>. He <u>describes</u> his book as follows:

Along with Clifford Stoll's Silicon Snake Oil, the book offered just about the first critique to suggest that the widespread utopian expectations for the Internet were not well founded.

I think we've learned by now that no utopian expectations can be well founded. However, there's no escaping that our society has changed, and barring some natural or self-made disaster that sends us all back to following a plow all day, I'd predict that that change will not be reversed.

If we future beings have learned one thing about the Internet, it is that we are not creating a global village. One thing the Internet does support are many communities that can extend beyond the geographical limitations of the past. Whether its a community of learners or a community of software developers (as in open source), the impact is not from the technology itself, but rather from how people can use it to their advantage. That's not a utopian vision of life-apprentice learning, but it is a significant and sometimes positive change. We'll just need some more future to tell for sure.

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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).



The Information Security folks have a new page on "Phishing Scams." Webopedia defines phishing thusly:

(fish'ing) (n.) The act of sending an e-mail to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft. The e-mail directs the user to visit a Web site where they are asked to update personal information, such as passwords and credit card, social security, and bank account numbers, that the legitimate organization already has. The Web site, however, is bogus and set up only to steal the user's information. For example, 2003 saw the proliferation of a phishing scam in which users received e-mails supposedly from eBay claiming that the user's account was about to be suspended unless he clicked on the provided link and updated the credit card information that the genuine eBay already had. Because it is relatively simple to make a Web site look like a legitimate organizations site by mimicking the HTML code, the scam counted on people being tricked into thinking they were actually being contacted by eBay and were subsequently going to eBay's site to update their account information. By spamming large groups of people, the "phisher" counted on the e-mail being read by a percentage of people who actually had listed credit card numbers with eBay legitimately.

Phishing, also referred to as *brand spoofing* or *carding*, is a variation on "fishing," the idea being that bait is thrown out with the hopes that while most will ignore the bait, some will be tempted into biting.

With that in mind, check out the Information Security phishing page: <a href="http://www.unt.edu/security/phishing.pdf">http://www.unt.edu/security/phishing.pdf</a>

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## **IRC News**

Minutes provided by Sue Ellen Richey, Recording Secretary\*



## March 21, 2006

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: PHILIP TURNER, JUDITH ADKISON, PATRICK PLUSCHT, GUILLERMO OYARCE, TIM CHRISTIAN, CHUCK FULLER, LOU ANN BRADLEY, JIM CURRY, TOBYE RAE NELSON, RAMU MUTHIAH, JONEEL HARRIS, CHRISTY CRUTSINGER, UWE ROSSBACH, JON NELSON, WIL CLARK (for JOHN PRICE), MARGARET AMBUEHL NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: MAURICE LEATHERBURY, JAMES STRAWN, PHILIP BACZEWSKI, JOHN HOOPER, JOE ADAMO, SUE ELLEN RICHEY (Recording Secretary) MEMBERS ABSENT: BRUCE HUNTER, RAY BANKS, ROBERT NIMOCKS, ELIZABETH HINKLE-TURNER, SARA WILSON MCKAY, CENGIZ CAPAN, DON GROSE, ABRAHAM JOHN, DOUG MAINS, BOBBY CARTER GUESTS: CHARLOTTE RUSSELL, JENNIFER LAFLEUR

The minutes of the February 21, 2006 meeting were approved as distributed.

#### **IR Steering Committee**

The Chair announced that there has not been an IR Steering Committee meeting since the last IRC meeting.

#### **Distributed Computing Support Management Team\*\***

Philip Baczewski reported for the Distributed Computing Support Management Team that the committee met on March 3 at which time Craig Terrell of CITC Network Computing Services, reported that the CITC has purchased 6 months of Microsoft Premier Support to cover Microsoft Windows Servers deployed on campus. Craig will be the primary contact for such support and will escalate calls to Microsoft if problems cannot be resolved by oncampus staff. Service from Microsoft under this contract include Infrastructure Support Assistance, 24 x 7 Problem Resolution Support, Information Services, and Support Account Management. A limited number of support hours are available. Windows 2000 Server and above, along with associated software, will be supported. Windows NT 4 servers are no longer supported by Microsoft. Microsoft has offered to help system administrators migrate from NT4 servers to Windows 2000 or above, if UNT assistance is requested. Anyone interested in such service should contact Craig Terrell.

Dell representative, Bill Neiderstadt, was on hand to provide an update on Dell printer service issues and to provide an update on Dell printer offerings. As a result of these discussions, Bill agreed to arrange for a Dell Premier purchasing site for UNT so that we can get Dell's best pricing on printers and printing supplies.

DCSMT did not meet on March 17, since that date was during Spring Break. The next

meeting is scheduled for April 7.

#### **Enhanced Learning Planning Group**

Patrick Pluscht reported for the Enhanced Learning Planning Group that this committee has not met, but that he has met with the Distributed Learning Steering Committee and updated the IRC on several items:

- 1) iTunes sales representative met with Patrick regarding a roll out of this technology to 100 universities (two or three of which are in Texas). UNT will apply to be included in that group by sending in a questionnaire, after which the company may extend an invitation to UNT. As part of the program, they would like for UNT to have at least 5 or 6 courses that would have a robust use for iTunes university. iTunes will host academic materials for us at no cost for the use of their distribution system through the iTunes music store. Some customization of the product will be allowed. Patrick will discuss support issues with Philip Baczewski.
- 2) A demonstration was conducted for Intelligent Essay Assessor, a product that is supposed to take student assignments and grade them for the professor. To prepare for this, however, a faculty member would have to provide 300 papers that had already been scored by them, to create a standard for grading. Due to this heavy workload on the front end, this product may be more useful as a writing tool rather than a grading tool. It is rather expensive, at a cost of \$.80 per paper; therefore, the group is probably not going to explore it at this time.
- 3) They have looked at another product called Grade Mark, by the same company that provides us with Turn It In; a 2-month pilot project is being considered with the English Dept. The company is also interested in peer review, so Patrick plans to ask Turn It In if they will provide us a similar pilot project UNT department; peer review would exist within WebCT Vista for students to go in and grade each other's papers.

#### **EIS Planning Group**

Joneel Harris reported for the EIS Planning Group that there have been problems with logging into various systems over the last couple of days. Maurice Leatherbury explained that there was a problem with the LDAP server but that it is believed that the problem has been fixed by now.

Joneel reported that the EIS Planning Group is dealing with upgrade issues. About 15 staff from UNT plus around 10 from HSC attended the Alliance Conference over Spring Break, where they looked at upgrade options. Since Oracle has established a migration path from the current version to their new product, called Fusion (a combination of PeopleSoft and Oracle), the committee is discussing what would be the best upgrade plan for UNT. Although the implementation of the upgrade will be a large project, it will not be like the initial installation and implementation. Joneel will keep the IRC posted regarding the committee's decisions and plans.

Joneel also reported that they have initiated a purchase order to bring in a group to do a CRM workshop in April. The software modules, which are designed for student prospect management, already belong to us, but this workshop will help the EIS project group get started using the software.

Uwe Rossbach asked Joneel if the student advising tracking software was part of CRM. Joneel replied that it is not, but said she would look into the use of Notes in the student

advising module.

#### **Standards and Policy Planning Group**

Tim Christian reported for the Standards and Policy Planning Group that he had brought the final draft of the revised Computing and Information Technology Center General Computing Policy for approval, and distributed the final revision. Uwe Rossbach moved for approval of the revised policy; Jon Nelson seconded the motion and the policy was approved unanimously.

Tim reported that his committee is also working on a revision of the Web Publishing Policy. He hopes to have a draft of that document ready for a first reading by the IRC at the end of the spring semester. Tim expressed his appreciation of the General Access Labs for adapting their business processes to accommodate photo-less ID cards.

Joneel Harris stated that Educational Testing Services is revamping the way they deliver GRE testing and are assuming that universities can use General Access Labs for that testing. It is not considered practical to use General Access Labs for that purpose; therefore the establishment of a new 100-seat lab is being considered for that purpose, as well as for an on-campus testing facility for distance learning students.

#### **Student Computing Planning Group**

Philip Baczewski reported for Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner that there has been no meeting of the Student Computing Planning Group since the last IRC meeting, so there is no report.

#### WebCT

The Chair reported that the recent LDAP server problems put WebCT campus edition out of business. He also reported that the WebCT Vista communication protocol has been activated, and that the migration continues from campus edition to Vista in an effort to have all courses migrated into Vista before the end of Spring semester.

#### **QEP**

Regarding QEP, the Chair announced that on April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> a review team will be on campus to meet with many of the people involved in the project.

#### **CITC**

Maurice Leatherbury announced that on April 7<sup>th</sup>, CITC will begin its move to the Research Park. He also reported that he attended the LEARN Board meeting in Austin yesterday and stated that he has been re-elected as Secretary of that organization. Maurice announced that the build-out of the first link in the state-wide fiber optic network has begun and should be completed by the end of this summer. He added that the North Texas Gigapop group is well represented on the LEARN Board now, with 3 of the executives being from the North Texas Gigapop group, and CR Chevli of the CITC staff is Chair of the Technical Advisory Group.

#### **Oracle**

Joneel Harris announced that Oracle wants to get into the learning management arena, but she believes they will not build their own product, but will buy one.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

### April 18, 2006

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: MAURICE LEATHERBURY (for PHILIP TURNER), PAUL HONS (for JUDITH ADKISON), PATRICK PLUSCHT, GUILLERMO OYARCE, TIM CHRISTIAN, LOU ANN BRADLEY, JIM CURRY, TOBYE RAE NELSON, RAMU MUTHIAH, JONEL HARRIS, CHRISTY CRUTSINGER, UWE ROSSBACH, JON NELSON, WIL CLARK (for JOHN PRICE), MARGARET AMBUEHL, RAY BANKS, ROBERT NIMOCKS, ELIZABETH HINKLE-TURNER, SARA WILSON MCKAY, CENGIZ CAPAN, DON GROSE NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: JAMES STRAWN, PHILIP BACZEWSKI, JOE ADAMO, SUE ELLEN RICHEY (Recording Secretary)

MEMBERS ABSENT: CHUCK FULLER, BRUCE HUNTER, ABRAHAM JOHN, DOUG MAINS, BOBBY CARTER GUESTS: CHARLOTTE RUSSELL

The minutes of the March 21, 2006 meeting were approved as distributed.

The Chair introduced Sara Wilson McKay, the new representative from the School of Visual Arts.

#### **IR Steering Committee**

The Chair announced that there has not been an IR Steering Committee meeting since the last IRC meeting.

#### Distributed Computing Support Management Team\*\*

Philip Baczewski reported for DCSMT that they met on April 7. Bahram Paiani, of CITC Network Computing Services, described planned changes to the top-level mail routers in order to move their server farm to the new F5 load balancer. He promised to keep the NetMan mailing list up to date on the status of any changes in this regard.

Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, of CITC Academic Computing Services, reported on changes on SkillPort courseware, information that was also published in this month's *Benchmarks*. She reminded that the CBT web site can be reached at <a href="http://www.unt.edu/cbt/">http://www.unt.edu/cbt/</a>

Ed Lydon, sales manager, and Stan Kaminski, sales engineer, with Okidata Americas, Inc. gave a presentation on Okidata color printers. One feature of the Okidata color printers is the use of LED instead of laser technology making it possible to provide a 5 year warranty on the printer head. The Okidata Color printers are also capable of printing banners up to 12 inches wide by 48 inches long. If anyone is interested in additional information, they can contact the DCSMT Chair.

The next DCSMT meeting will be April 21.

Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner announced that SOVA's lab has an Okidata printer that he would be willing to loan out to any other lab who would like to try it.

#### **Enhanced Learning Planning Group**

Patrick Pluscht reported for the Enhanced Learning Planning Group that the application they submitted to iTunes University to be a pilot group is on hold, but they expect to know something today or tomorrow. He stated that podcasting is an issue that he believes UNT will need to address in the near future. Cengiz Capan asked about the status of the Planning Group's investigation of clicker technology. Patrick responded that some faculty who are in the funded enhanced learning projects are using them on an ad hoc basis right now. Some want more flexible tools, for example: tools that have lcd panels so students can take notes on them, and Patrick is aware of some that are coming on the market soon. One very

interesting tool, Patrick said, is the development of a virtual clicker called a V-pad, which will allow anyone operating over a wireless 80211.tx network to participate and use any device they already have for portable computing as a clicker instead of having to purchase a new device. The committee is looking at all of the new devices that are becoming available, and still gathering feedback from faculty who are using current clicker technology. Cengiz asked if they have standardized on any particular device at this time, and Patrick replied that they have not. There are pros and cons for any of the various devices available at this time. Cengiz suggested that Patrick give an interim report to the faculty as to where they stand on this issue, and Patrick agreed to do so.

#### **Communications Planning Group**

Lou Ann Bradley reported for the Communications Planning Group that at their last meeting they received an update on the UPS system that was being installed in the ISB, the firewall installation, and what the network will look like in the next phase. The committee's next meeting will be held at the Research Park.

#### **EIS Planning Group**

Joneel reported for the EIS Planning Group discussions of the upgrade plans are coming to a close. They met with the Health Science Center last week and have another meeting scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup>. John Hooper and others met with Oracle recently and was told to expect a delay in the delivery of Version 9.0. It had been scheduled for the first quarter of 2007. Since support for the current version, 8.0, ends December of 2006, a delay of Version 9.0's release may force them to go ahead and upgrade to Version 8.9, particularly if Oracle doesn't extend support for Version 8.0. In addition, a CRM workshop that has been going on for the last couple of weeks will be concluded tomorrow, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The workshop has enabled an exchange of very good information. Joneel asked for feedback on the new Kronos reports, and got a few mixed reviews.

On another note, Joneel reported that the Registrar's Office implemented a product called Course Applicability System which aids other institutions'advisors in advising students who are coming to UNT. We have our first school live with us (4 area community colleges have been invited to electronically interface their transcripts in their student system with TASP). They are very pleased with how this project is progressing.

Margaret Ambuehl added that Human Resources has begun a project for integrating Kronos Timeclock time entry into EIS. They expect to have 8 departments doing their time entry by timeclocks either by touch ids or card swipe by some time this summer.

Joneel added that the Fact Book is the next area they will look at to help in getting student data publicized. Cengiz Capan asked if there is any progress on development of the Faculty Module and the Teaching Load Credit Report projects. Joneel responded that Donna Asher, who is working on those two projects, will work on the Faculty Module after the budget is finalized, and is close to completing of the Teaching Load Credit Report project.

#### **Standards & Policy Planning Group**

Tim Christian reported for the Standards & Policy Planning Group that they are still working on the Web Publishing Policy and they hope to bring it to the IRC some time before the end of the semester.

#### **Student Computing Planning Group, WebCT**

Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner reported for the Student Computing Planning Group that the General Access Lab Managers are looking into the implications of using student id cards for credit cards in cooperation with Wells Fargo. She reported that she has been asked to attend the weekly meetings of the Instructional Consulting Unit of WebCT in order to liaison between that group and the General Access Lab Managers. Elizabeth believes this will be a very useful because she will be advised of problems, upgrades, outages, etc, and she can share that information with the lab managers. Also, she is going to be working with Jane Himmel on a best practices document for preparing WebCT courses, to minimize the printing or make printing more efficient.

Patrick Pluscht reported that Shane Jester has become head of the CITC WebCT administrative support group. He also reported that WebCT Vista is becoming increasingly stable. He stated that although the Campus Edition of WebCT will no longer be available after this semester, those faculty who still have not converted their courses to Vista will still be able to do so through next Fall. His group will be glad to have only one platform to support, when everyone is using Vista.

Patrick also reported that the SACS committee has given UNT great reviews about the QEP project, which has been very encouraging for those who have worked on this.

Patrick asked if anyone was interested in or looking at web-conferencing products, like WebEx, that will allow sharing of documents and applications for collaborative research. They are looking at web-conferencing within WebCT, and are conducting a demo on it at this time. There was some discussion about the potential use of this type of technology, and how it works. Patrick said he would share the website address with IRC members by asking the Recording Secretary to send it out in an email. Members can then view a demo on their own computer.

#### **Computing & Information Technology Center**

Maurice Leatherbury reported that the Computing & Information Technology Center is in the progress of moving all of its employees out to the Research Park. There are a few more people who will move around May 12<sup>th</sup>. Philip Baczewski pointed out that Academic Computing is not moving to the Research Park and will remain in the same place in the ISB.

Maurice also reported that there have been some recent developments in national networking in higher education. UNT has been a member of Internet 2 for the past 5 or 6 years and participates in Internet 2 through the North Texas Gigapop consortium of seven institutions in the Dallas area: UT Dallas, UT Arlington, TCU, SMU, Southwestern Medical School, UNT and the National Weather Service. We are also a member of the National Lambda Rail network organization called LEARN. Essentially there are two national high speed networks devoted to higher education now which has resulted in duplication of efforts, so there has been a movement to merge Internet 2 and National Lambda Rail in the same organization. The effort to merge has been on and off numerous times. Maurice expressed his hope that a merger does occur, to avoid this duplication of effort and payment for services. Maurice was recently elected Chair of the North Texas Gigapop at its last meeting. Maurice further announced that he believes we are close to getting Region 11 Educational service center connected to the internet through the sponsored education group participant (SEGP).

Cengiz Capan asked about the utilization of Internet2. Maurice responded that UNT has a 45

MB link that typically averages 25 meg per day. He explained that regular internet traffic is routed through Internet2 automatically. It provides reliable bandwidth and is used heavily for video conferencing. Philip Baczewski added that it is being used for research. Robert Nimocks pointed out that some research grants require the use of Internet2 by those submitting their proposals for funding. Maurice estimated that the cost of Internet2 is around \$80,000 per year.

Tim Christian stated that there is a research firm, the Gartner Group, that does a lot of research of technology and provides their findings to institutions of higher education, which saves a lot of time in researching new technologies. UNT has a subscription to their services now, paid for by CAS, College of Engineering, the Libraries, College of Business and the CITC. This subscription provides reports which help those using them to make decisions regarding entry points (to avoid overly-hyped products) as well as identify key things to consider from vendors, products, services, and trends. Anyone can access their website to get information about various technologies. You authenticate using the following web site: <a href="http://gartner.unt.edu">http://gartner.unt.edu</a>.

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

## **IRC Meeting Schedule**

The IRC generally meets on the third Tuesday of each month, from 2-4 p.m., in the Administration Building Board Room. From time to time there are planned exceptions to this schedule. The schedule can be found <a href="here">here</a>. All meetings of the IRC, its program groups, and other committees, are open to all faculty, staff, and students.

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<sup>\*</sup> For a list of IRC Regular and Ex-officio Members click here.

<sup>\*\*</sup>DCSMT Minutes can be found here.

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# Research and Statistical Support University of North Texas

## **RSS Matters**

Link to the last RSS article here: <u>New Developments with Web Based Surveys on the Web2Survey Zope Server</u> - Ed.

# Editing HTML with the Kupu Editor on the Web2Survey Zope Server

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

Previously in the RSS column (April 2006) we have discussed using the open-source HTML WYSIWYG editor Nvu to edit HTML pages on the Web2Survey Zope server. The following RSS installment discussed content management systems (CMS), specifically Zope/Plone (May 2006). In the May 2006 RSS installment, the web development technique Ajax was briefly referred to (e.g. XMLHttpRequest). Ajax refers to programming practices that use asynchronous JavaScript. Ajax web development techniques are used my many websites (e.g. Google; Yahoo) to implement responsive and dynamic websites. Effectively, Ajax applications partly duplicate the functionality of Java applets: lightweight miniapplications that are processed inside the client's browser; however, the Ajax platform is more restricted. The practical upshot of this is that a client's session has greater interactivity, speed, and usability. Ajax uses the XMLHttpRequest API to exchange data asynchronously with the web server. Although the XML format is routinely used to exchange data between the server and the client, other formats work as well (e.g. HTML, plain text, etc.). Several web-based HTML editors (see list of editors) utilize JavaScript and the Ajax platform to implement "in-place" editing of HTML documents.

## Kupu: A Web Based Editor That Uses Asynchronous Javascript

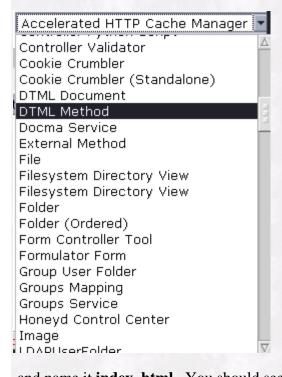
Kupu is a "document-centric" open source <u>client-side</u> editor for <u>Mozilla</u> (e.g. <u>Firefox</u>), <u>Netscape</u> and <u>Internet Explorer</u>. Kupu was primarily written by (among others) Paul Everitt, Guido Wesdorp and Philipp von Weitershausen. Kupu was inspired by Maik Jablonski's Epoz editor. Kupu has been integrated into a variety of CMS including: <u>Zope</u>, <u>Silva</u>, <u>Plone</u> and <u>Apache Lenya</u>. Kupu uses <u>CSS</u> rather than HTML for layout and presentation and also supports asynchronous saving to the web server.

### Setting up the Kupu Editor on Zope

I will start out with a new Zope account and proceed through the steps necessary to edit HTML documents with the Kupu editor. After logging into your Zope account, you should see something like the following (this is a newly created Zope account - for instructions on logging in see June 2005, tutorial 1):



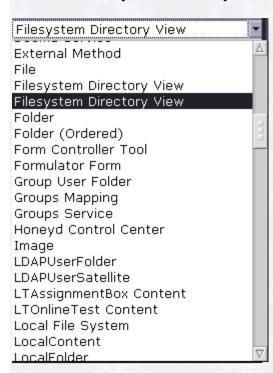
Notice that Zope uses index\_html as the default HTML index page rather than index.html or index.htm. Delete your original **index\_html** page and add a new <u>DTML method</u> document from the drop down menu (Make sure you use **Method** and NOT Document!!):



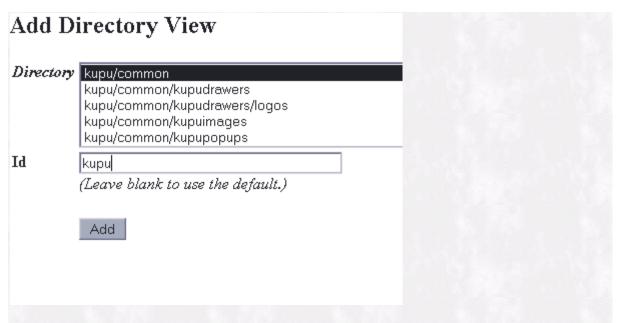
and name it index\_html. You should see the following:



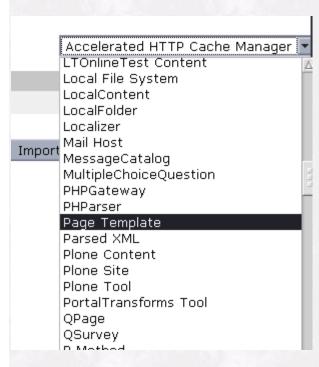
Next, add a **Filesystem Directory View** object (choose the second entry):



After the display of the browser window that has the entry fields for the **Filesystem Directory View**, scroll down and select **kupu/common**. Name the object **kupu**, for example:



Next, we need to create a <u>Zope Page Template (ZPT)</u> named **kupu\_edit** that makes the JavaScript libraries available to an editing session. Create a ZPT from the object drop-down menu and name it **kupu\_edit**, for example:



After the changes have been committed, you should see:



Next, we need to change the default HTML content for the **kupu\_edit** page template. At the URL:

https://web2survey.unt.edu/Utilities/kupu\_edit.txt

we have the necessary HTML and Javascript to include in the newly created **kupu\_edit** file. Note that YOU ONLY NEED TO CREATE THE **kupu\_edit** ZPT FILE ONCE. It will act as an editing template that accesses the Javascript libraries for all edited documents (we discuss this later):

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"</pre>
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"</pre>
      xmlns:tal="http://xml.zope.org/namespaces/tal"
      xmlns:metal="http://xml.zope.org/namespaces/metal"
      xmlns:i18n="http://xml.zope.org/namespaces/i18n"
      tal:define="kupu here/kupu;
                  macros kupu/kupumacros/macros;
                  kupu url kupu/absolute url;
                  document url here/REQUEST/URL1">
  <!--
   Create a 'kupu editor' object in the folder where you want
   enable visual editing with kupu. Call it 'kupu' (you can ca
   something else, but this template relies on this name being
   'kupu'). Add a Page Template next to the kupu object and co
   contents of this file into it. Call the Page Template 'kupu
   or something like that. You can now point your browser at a
   URL, append '/kupu edit' and you will be able to edit the ol
   with kupu.
  Note: kupumacros require kupu url and document url be defin
   -->
  <head>
    <title>Kupu Editor example template</title>
```

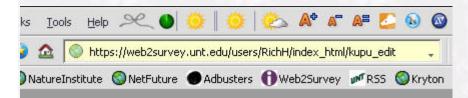
The contents of this kupu\_edit.txt file needs to be placed in the **kupu\_edit** ZPT file. Edit the **kupu\_edit** ZPT file in your root Zope directory by clicking the **kupu\_edit** ZPT link. You should see:



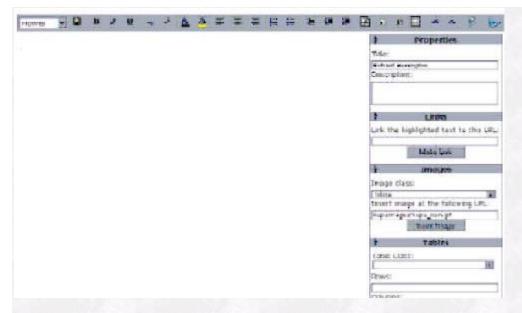
This text needs to be replaced by the contents of the kupu\_edit.txt file. Highlight all of this text and push the delete key on the keyboard (i.e. Ctrl-a keys and then press delete). Then select the text from the kupu\_edit.txt file and paste it into the window above (i.e. Ctrl-a, Ctrl-c, then Ctrl-v). Click **Save Changes**. If your editing changes to **kupu\_edit** have been successful, you should see the following (note: there should not be any of the original text from the default creation of the kupu\_edit file in the ZPT page template, **kupu\_edit**):



To invoke the kupu editor for any HTML object (or in this case a DTML object - the default Zope index page), follow the HTML object name with the text /kupu\_edit For example, using the full URL for the HTML object that you wish to edit, we type the following in the browser URL entry field (notice the /kupu\_edit after the index\_html object name):



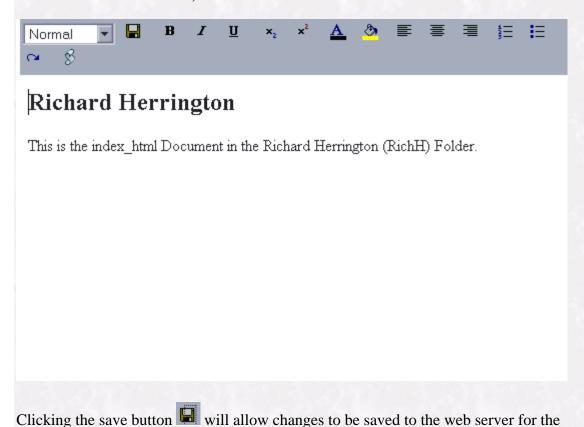
You should see something like the following after the kupu editor has started:



To edit the contents in either the HTML source or WYSIWYG editing mode, click the edit button

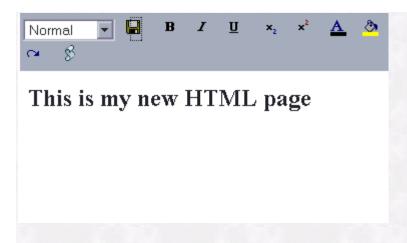
(once for HTML source mode; click again to enter into the WYSIWYG editing mode):

You should see the text region is now active for editing or text entry (note the thin bar in front of the "R" of Richard):



currently edited HTML file (note: you will be prompted for username-password login IF the directory that contains the HTML is password restricted). After making changes,

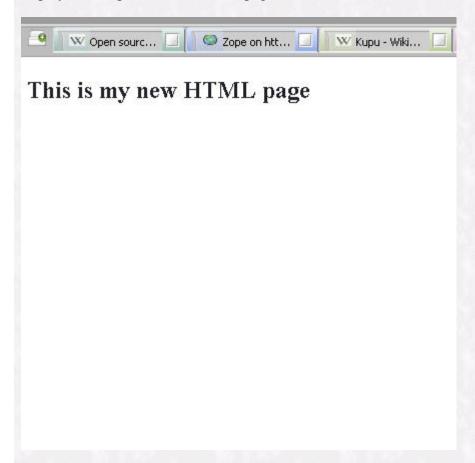
and saving, you should see the following:



Browsing the URL (entering into the browser URL entry field and clicking "GO"):



Displays the Zope **index\_html** webpage in the browser window:



Remember, that once you have created the initial **kupu** editor folder, and have created the ZPT **kupu\_edit** template, you don't have to create these again. Editing any HTML object or Zope DTML object is done by following the object's URL with **/kupu\_edit** This invokes the kupu editor instance on that object. Additionally, remember that since kupu uses Javascript libraries, you must have Javascript enabled in your browser. Once last suggestion: the URL and object used in this current demonstration are still published. If you wish to experiment with the kupu editor, you can access it by going to the URL:

https://web2survey.unt.edu/users/RichH/index\_html/kupu\_edit

You WON'T be able to save any changes to the web server since the directory is password protected, but at least you can get an idea of how the kupu editor looks and feels "real time". Good luck!

#### **Related Websites**

**Kupu Editor** 

Kupu Documentation

Lenya Kupu Documentation

O'Reilly Article: Rich Web Text Editing with Kupu

Kupu Zope Project

**Review of WYSIWYG Editors** 

Using WYSIWYG Editors with Zope

**Zope Labs** 

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# Apache web farm configuration: Simpler than mod\_macro?

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

have come up with a way to configure apache servers across a web farm, (using a single configuration), and without using mod\_macro. All you need to do is to patch the /usr/sbin/apache2ctl shell script (on Debian) with the following diff:

```
--- apache2ctl.orig 2006-05-15 00:37:05.793938736 -0500
+++ apache2ctl 2006-05-03 11:53:01.000000000 -0500
@@ -77,11 +77,18 @@
 case $ARGV in
 start|stop|restart|graceful)
 - $HTTPD -k $ARGV
+ $HTTPD -f /etc/apache2.conf -k $ARGV
 ERROR=$?
 ;;
 startssl|sslstart|start-SSL)
 - $HTTPD -k start -DSSL
+ ### let's create our temp httpd.conf file (we'll call it apache2.conf for fun ;) )
+ LOCALIP=$(/sbin/ifconfig eth0 | awk '/inet/ { print $2 }' | awk -F ":" '{ print $2 }')
 + cat /etc/apache2/apache2.conf > /etc/apache2.conf
 + cat /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/* >> /etc/apache2.conf
 + sed -i "s/IPADDRESS/${LOCALIP}/g" /etc/apache2.conf
+ $HTTPD -f /etc/apache2.conf -k start -DSSL
```

```
ERROR=$?
;;
configtest)
```

#### NOTES:

These changes to the /usr/sbin/apache2ctl shell script essentially generate a new apache httpd.conf file every time the web server starts or stops. Let me explain these changes and walk you through each line:

```
1. LOCALIP=$(/sbin/ifconfig eth0 | awk '/inet/ { print $2 }' | awk -F ":" '{ print $2 }')
```

- This line grabs the ip address for the local machine and put it into the LOCALIP variable. We are running all machines off of a single set of configuration files, so we need to grab the local machines ip address, and will use sed to replace the placeholder, "IPADDRESS", with the contents of \$LOCALIP.
- 2. cat /etc/apache2/apache2.conf > /etc/apache2.conf
- Cat the contents of the /etc/apache2/apache2.conf file into a file named /etc/apache2.conf. (This file can be named and placed anywhere. We just put it in /etc because configuration files are often found there). In the Debian Apache2 package, the /etc/apache2/apache2.conf file contains the global variables for our Apache configuration. For our purposes, we only need to change the ip addresses throughout conf file, (and vhost files), so I removed the ports.conf include directive and moved the contents of the ports.conf and the NameVirtualHost directives from the vhost conf files into /etc/apache2/apache2.conf. All instances of ip addresses have been replaced with a placeholder, "IPADDRESS":

```
--- oldconf/apache2.conf 2006-01-11 06:23:27.000000000 -0600

+++ apache2.conf 2006-05-05 11:01:50.000000000 -0500

@@ -119,8 +120,13 @@

# Include all the user configurations:

Include /etc/apache2/httpd.conf

+

# Include ports listing
--Include /etc/apache2/ports.conf

+# Include /etc/apache2/ports.conf

+Listen IPADDRESS:80

+Listen IPADDRESS:443

+Listen IPADDRESS:8080

+
```

```
# Include generic snippets of statements
Include /etc/apache2/conf.d/[^.#]*

@@ -389,13 +397,32 @@
# Allow from .your_domain.com
#</Location>

+NameVirtualHost IPADDRESS:80
+NameVirtualHost IPADDRESS:443
+NameVirtualHost IPADDRESS:8080

# Include the virtual host configurations:
Include /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/[^.#]*
3. cat /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/* >> /etc/apache2.conf
```

- Next, we append all enabled vhost config files to the /etc/apache2.conf. This has the advantage of creating a monolithic Apache conf file, but allows us to manage the server configuration using the great a2ensite/a2dissite tools that come with the Debian Apache2 package.
- $4 \cdot \text{sed} \text{i "s/IPADDRESS/${LOCALIP}/g" /etc/apache2.conf}$
- Finally, we use sed to do a global search and replace on the /etc/apache2.conf file to replace each instance of "IPADDRESS" with the ip address of the local machine on which apache is starting.
- 5. It is important to note that we need to add the new configuration file to the "stop" case as well:

```
start|stop|restart|graceful)
- $HTTPD -k $ARGV
+ $HTTPD -f /etc/apache2.conf -k $ARGV
ERROR=$?
```

Or else apache will complain about syntax problems in the /etc/apache2/apache2.conf templates which are used to build the new /etc/apache2.conf configuration file.

#### Conclusion

Some of you may be surprised that I am replacing mod\_macro with this new approach, but I find that this simple shell scripting allows for greater flexibility in managing the Apache configuration within the confines of the default Debian Apache2 package, and is much less complex to maintain than mod\_macro. As our configuration file was approaching 2,000-3,000 lines, we were getting lost within the file and began to make mistakes while making configuration changes to Apache. This new approach allows us to move from the monolithic conf file, which is needed by mod\_macro, and to take advantage of the simplicity of a split apache conf file, helping us to ensure maximum uptime by limiting the possible confusion caused by an overly-large configuration file.

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## **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 summer. Classes still available are: Intermediate SAS, Introduction to Stata, Intermediate Stata, Workshop in R & S-Plus Programming I, Workshop in R & S-Plus Programming II, New Technologies for Survey Research I, and New Technologies for Survey Research II.

#### **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, <a href="mailto:lynch@unt.edu">lynch@unt.edu</a>).

## **Especially for Faculty and Staff Members**

In addition to the <u>ACS Short Courses</u>, which are available to students, faculty and staff, staff and faculty members can take courses offered through the <u>Human Resources</u> Department, the <u>Center for Distributed Learning</u>, and the UNT Libraries' <u>Multimedia Development Lab</u>. Additionally, the Center for Continuing Education and Conference Management offers a variety of <u>courses</u> 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: <a href="http://www.unt.edu/eis/WebHelp/EIS\_Training\_Training\_Start.htm">http://www.unt.edu/eis/WebHelp/EIS\_Training\_Training\_Start.htm</a>
- EIS Timekeeper Training Schedule: http://www.unt.edu/hr/eis/timetrain.htm
- EIS ePro Training Calendar: <a href="http://www.unt.edu/pps/trainingcalendar.htm">http://www.unt.edu/pps/trainingcalendar.htm</a>
- Ongoing training is available on WebCT at: <a href="http://web2.unt.edu/eis/Training/signup\_form.php">http://web2.unt.edu/eis/Training/signup\_form.php</a>

### **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: <a href="http://ncs.unt.edu/gw/howto/index.htm">http://ncs.unt.edu/gw/howto/index.htm</a> 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, <a href="mailto:jasong@unt.edu">jasong@unt.edu</a>.

#### **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 <a href="http://www.unt.edu/cdl/training\_events/index.htm">http://www.unt.edu/cdl/training\_events/index.htm</a>

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 <u>site</u> 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 <a href="http://www.pware.com/index.cfm?clientid=2694a">http://www.pware.com/index.cfm?clientid=2694a</a>

## **Alternate Forms of Training**

Many of the <u>General Access Labs</u> around campus have tutorials installed on their computers. The <u>Training Web</u> 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 <u>website</u>. 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 <u>Tracking Progress in New KnowledgeNet Courses</u> in the January

issue of *Benchmarks Online* gives instructions on how to set up tracking for each course. The article <u>SkillSoft Site Re-organized With New Course</u> <u>Offerings</u> in the April issue of *Benchmarks Online* should also be noted. This information is also available on the <u>CBT website</u>.

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## **Staff Activities**

### **Transitions**

#### **New Employee:**

• **Blake Holmes,** Computer Equipment Operator, Computer Operations (part-time).

No longer working in the Computing and Information Technology Center:

• **Mohammad Khan**, Programmer/Analyst, PeopleSoft Application Infrastructure Management.

## Awards, Recognition, Publications, etc.

- Dr. Maurice Leatherbury, Associate Vice President for Computing and Chief Technology Officer, was elected Secretary of the Lonestar Education and Research Network (<u>LEARN</u>) in March. In April, he was elected to be Chair of the North Texas <u>Gigapop</u> Management Council. [Also reported in <u>InHouse</u>]
- **Douglas Fuller**, Computer Systems Manager, Academic Computing and User Services, gave a "Science Saturday Seminar" and officiated at the National Science Bowl April 27 May 1, 2006. <u>The National Science Bowl</u> is a quiz show-style science competition for high school students who win regional competitions throughout the country. It is put on by the US Department of Energy. Fuller was a contestant when he was in high school.

Fuller has also been named to a review committee for Supercomputing 2006, an annual conference put on by IEEE and ACM. This year's conference will be held November 11-17 in Tampa, Florida. For more information see: <a href="http://sc06.supercomputing.org">http://sc06.supercomputing.org</a> The Technical Program Committees are listed <a href="http://sc06.supercompu

• **Dr. Becky Sue Parton**, Student Records Data Systems Programmer (AIS), has completed her Ph.D. in Educational Computing here at UNT and will receive her diploma in August. Her dissertation is titled *Levels of Technology Implementation: A Comparison Study Between Technology-Minded General Educators and Technology-Minded Deaf Educators*.

Parton has published 3 articles in peer-reviewed journals and given presentations at a dozen or so conferences (mostly on the national level) while working on her doctorate. Her research focus is on technology integration for deaf students - she is especially interested in multimedia, signing avatars, and educational software. A link to her vitae is <a href="here">here</a>.

- **Andrew Binovi**, Helpdesk consultant (part-time), received the E.C. Buell Award for Best Comparative Politics Student from the <u>Political Science</u> department.
- **Stormy Shippy**, Computer Support Specialist in Telecommunications, was in New York City recently to attend the opening of the new Apple Store there. The opening garnered national media attention and since he was the first in line, he was interviewed by all major news organizations and many not-so-major news organizations.

Links to some of the articles about the opening that include Stormy's story are below. Believe it or not, he was also the first person in line at the London opening in November of 2004:

#### Articles:

http://www.wired.com/news/culture/mac/0,70950-0.html?tw=wn\_index\_1 http://arstechnica.com/journals/apple.ars/2006/5/18/4020 http://ifostore.cachefly.net/fifth\_avenue/index.html http://news.com.com/2300-1047\_3-6074395-11.html

#### Videos:

http://news.com.com/1606-2\_3-6074532.html http://ifostore.cachefly.net/fifth\_avenue/opening.mov

#### And the winner is ...

• **Don McClure**, Remedy Developer in Academic Computing Services, won a T-shirt prize pack. **Ronnie Seay**, Production Control Specialist, won meal passes to the June 7 Faculty and Staff Picnic. (*InHouse* prize winners from the week of May 24).

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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, Dr. Rich Herrington discusses "Editing HTML with the Kupu Editor on the Web2Survey Zope Server."
- The Network Connection "The Network Connection" may well be the longest running column in computer publishing history. Certainly in University of North Texas computer <u>publishing history</u>.

This month, Dr. Baczewski ponders "The Once and Future Internet." Read all about it!

- 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 time the "Link of the Month" is all about "Phishing Scams." Check it out!
- <a href="https://www.unt.edu">www.unt.edu</a> is a monthly column written by the Central Web Support <a href="mailto:Group">Group</a> in Academic Computing Services. The topics usually focus, in some way, on World-Wide-Web-related issues. This month Shannon Peevey asks the question "Apache web farm configuration:
  <a href="mailto:Simpler than mod\_macro?">Simpler than mod\_macro?"</a>
- 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. Summer Short Courses are currently in progress.
- 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 minutes published this month were for March 21, 2006 and April 18, 2006.

• 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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