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

Data Security and Identity Theft at UNT

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

You've seen press reports of many incidents of potential identity theft across the country in recent months, including some security breaches at UNT that left information potentially exposed. Basically, the problem is that personal identification data such as social security numbers and associated persons' names have been obtained by persons who are not authorized to see that data. The loss of such data from a university subjects the institution to bad press as well as a significant expense because the university must notify everyone whose identity was potentially compromised. But more importantly, it means that persons whose personal information has been stolen or compromised face potential credit card theft or other similar problems.

Sometimes, the vulnerability that causes the loss is ill-protected or poorly written systems that hackers can exploit to obtain the personal information. But generally the root cause of the problem is simple carelessness of the person charged with protecting the data. An example of such carelessness is not using a "strong" password on a desktop computer that's connected to the network: hackers quickly and easily gain access to that computer and can download any file on that computer. For that reason, we instituted strong password requirements on campus late last year. However, just using a strong password is not sufficient to protect your computer in all cases since hackers are becoming increasingly sophisticated at breaking into systems.

Another common identity theft vulnerability is the loss or theft of a physical device holding sensitive information, such as the loss of a laptop computer holding a file of social security numbers and personal names. There are several examples of laptop thefts that have caused universities to have to notify thousands of students about possible compromises of their identity.

Be Prepared

We here at UNT want to do all that we reasonably can to prevent identity theft at our university, and with that goal in mind, here are some things that you can do yourself:

1. If at all possible, don't store files that have social security numbers and personal names on your desktop or laptop computer - instead, store them on a network drive that's better protected. I suspect that many faculty members still have old Excel grade spreadsheets containing SSN's on their desktop computers, and that many managers have old performance appraisals with SSN's on their desktop machines. Delete those files or move them to a network drive immediately!

2. If you really do need to keep SSN data on your computer, particularly if it's a laptop, encrypt that data so that if the file gets stolen the thief can't read the data. Your network manager can give you help with that encryption, or you can read the article at http://www.unt.edu/benchmarks/archives/2005/july05/encrypt.htm that explains how to set up encryption. Also, if you have other sensitive information such as personnel appraisals or research data on your machine, encrypt that as well.

3. Make sure that you use the virus protection software that the University provides and that you update your operating system and Microsoft Office Suite regularly with security patches. Again, your network manager can help with that if he/she hasn't already done so.

Additional Information

Additional information and help on computer security issues can be found in the Information Security Handbook at http://www.unt.edu/security/handbook/index.htm . The Information Resources Security Policy (http://www.unt.edu/policy/UNT_Policy/volume2/3_6.html) also gives guidance and rules on protecting data on University machines.

It's unfortunate that all of us have to be increasingly vigilant about protecting our computing resources, but it's a fact of the world we live in. Please help all of us at UNT protect our students and ourselves from identity theft.

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Benchmarks Online

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

This is an updated version of an article that we run from [time](#) to [time](#). - Ed.

By **[Dr. Maurice Leatherbury](#), Associate Vice President for Computing and Chief Technology Officer, CITC**

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

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

MS Software Available at the UNT Bookstore

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

- Office Pro 2003 - $14

- Office XP Pro - $21

- FrontPage 2002 and 2003 - $7 each

- Publisher 2003 - $7

- Office 2001 Mac - $7

- Office 2004 Mac - $8

- Mac Office 2004 Pro (includes Virtual PC 7) - $10

- Visual Studio.net Academic 2003 - $56

- Windows XP Pro upgrade - $8

Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost

Benchmarks Online

Students Get Inexpensive Software Too!

By Claudia Lynch, *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Students shouldn't feel left out of the "low cost software loop," when contemplating the contents of the article "Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost." Although the price may be a bit higher than $7.00, the University Bookstore has a variety of software available for students at greatly discounted educational prices. The following message was recently sent to all students via Bulk Mail:

> The UNT Computing and Information Technology Center has negotiated special pricing for students on select software products from Microsoft and Adobe. Discount pricing is available for the following Adobe titles:
>
> Acrobat Standard
> Acrobat Professional
> Creative Suites Premium
> Video Collection
>
> Microsoft Student Select pricing includes;
>
> Microsoft Office 2003 Professional Edition
> Microsoft Office 2004 Mac Professional Edition
> Microsoft Windows XP Professional Upgrade
>
> The pricing on these products represents significant savings over the retail and the standard academic pricing.
>
> These software pricing offers are exclusively available at the University of North Texas Bookstore in the University Union. For more information, phone 940-565-2592 or send e-mail to unt@bkstr.com.

Also, as stated on the CITC Information Security Website:

> McAfee VirusScan 8.0*i* is now available for FREE to all UNT students, faculty, and staff by downloading it from our website or you can purchase a CD from the software bookstore in the student union for only $3.00.
>
> McAfee VirusScan can only be installed on PC's running Windows NT 4.0 SP6 or greater, Windows 2000 Pro SP 3 or greater, Windows XP or Windows 2003 Server.
>
> **Note:** Will not run on PC's with Windows 95, 98 or ME

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Faculty Evaluation Processing Tips

By JoAnn Luksich, Data Management Coordinator

Here are some helpful tips on preparing your department's evaluations for processing by Data Management.

1. Complete a Faculty Evaluation form. Be sure to include a contact person and phone number as well as the correct semester and year at the top of the form.

2. Indicate whether you wish for the professor's names to be included on the report, or whether you wish for codes only to appear on the reports.

3. Important: If you are requesting the Instructor's names to be included, please provide us with a list of professors and codes assigned to them.

4. **MOST IMPORTANTLY** - Each group of scantrons must be separated (paper clips, rubber bands, envelopes, etc.) at each point the instructor OR course OR section changes. Also, please be sure that scantrons are all face up, with the "cut" corner aligned.

5. The **FIRST SCANTRON** of each group must have the Instructor number, Course number and Section number written and bubbled in the Identification Code field. The following scantrons of that group do not necessarily need to be coded.

Evaluations are processed by Data Management -- in ISB 140 -- in the order they are received. Please feel free to contact us at 565-3887 if we can help in any way. Thank you.

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EDUCAUSE

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

It's that time of year again, and EDUCAUSE 2005 is just around the corner. This time it is in Orlando, Florida, October 18–21 in Orlando, Florida. According to the conference website, EDUCAUSE this year is:

> Focused on the theme "Transforming the Academy: Dreams and Reality," the diverse program offers a variety of ways to gather information, engage with colleagues, and hear from leading figures in the field—including pre-conference seminars; track sessions; poster sessions; small group meetings; and corporate exhibits, presentations, and workshops.

Time is running out to register and get the early-bird rate (deadline Sept. 20), but registration will continue beyond that, of course. Also, as the announcement of the event stated:

New This Year: Podcasts

> Can't make it to the conference? You'll still be able to tap into what's going on via podcast. Look for download information on the EDUCAUSE 2005 site closer to the event.

Next Year

The EDUCAUSE Southwest Regional 2006 conference is coming up in February. The theme of the conference is "Building the IT Community of the Future" and it will be held in Austin, Texas.

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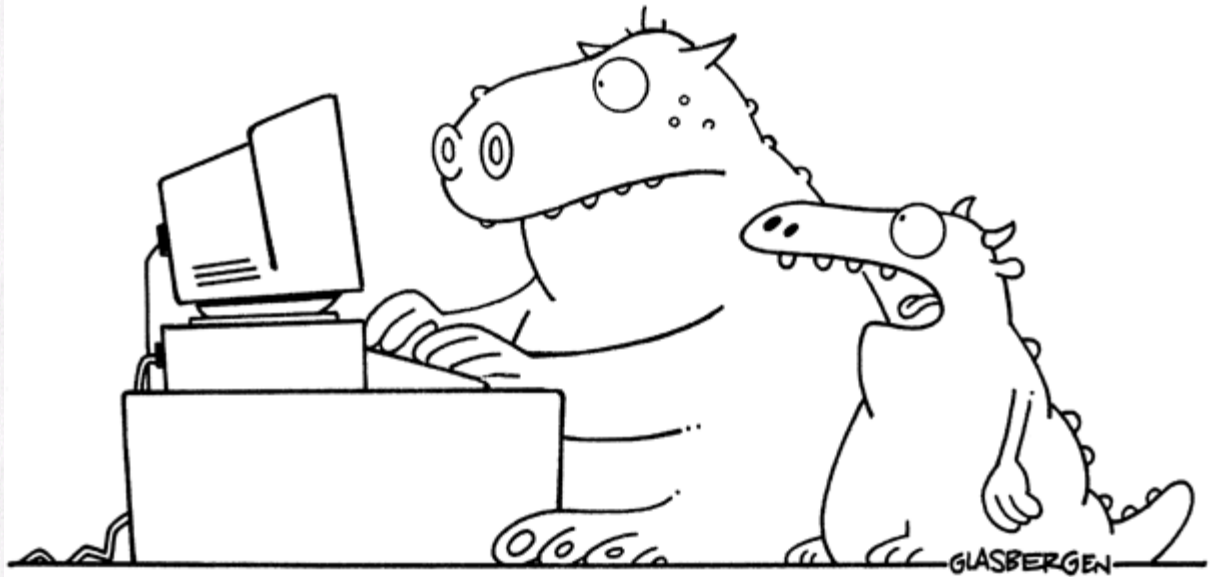
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Copyright 2005 by Randy Glasbergen.
www.glasbergen.com

"I'd sue them all for trademark infringement if I were you, Blog!"

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

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Benchmarks Online

Network Connection

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

One Step Closer

Two years ago I wrote in this column of a *Brave New Internet*, based on the potential for a peer-to-peer wireless network. Rather than everyone relying on having a connection to a broadband carrier, I proposed that a simpler model would be a store and forward network amongst a group of registered wireless peers. Recently a couple of projects came to my attention which seem to move us closer to the scenario I imagined.

A Base of Your Own

Linksys has been one of the more longstanding providers of wireless networking hardware. In their early years, they were one of the more popular wireless base station vendors, but they shipped their products with a default configuration that allowed anyone with a wireless card to connect to their base stations. This made it easy for people to set up and connect to their base stations, but earned them the nickname "Linksys Community Network" since many people who owned those units didn't know that they were potentially providing wireless networking service to their neighbors and anyone else who happened to drive by.

One of the other things that Linksys (now owned by networking giant Cisco Systems) also did, was to publicly release the Linux source code used in their wireless routers. This allowed open source developers to create modified or customized versions of the firmware used to run the wireless base stations and routers, thereby extending their functionality and features.

It's a Beautiful Day

One example of custom firmware is done by a company called Sveasoft. Their version of firmware is available for an annual subscription fee. It includes numerous additional features, including a "mesh" configuration that will allow multiple base stations to connect to form neighborhood networks (that sounds familiar).

One of the more specialized firmware versions available is called Neighbornode. This project adds a neighborhood bulletin board to your Lynksys wireless router. According to their explanation, Neighbornode works by creating "spaces for people in the same area to communicate easily with one another via the Internet, and by then building these separate spaces into a network, so that information can travel between locales as residents of those areas see fit."

The Open Choice

One firmware project that is not based on the Lynksys release is [OpenWrt](). Rather than adding to the Linksys version, OpenWrt is a Linux firmware distribution compiled from scratch with only the packages needed to provide the same wireless features available from the "stock" version of the firmware. This leaves the Linux savvy the opportunity to add whatever other packages as needed to accomplish a particular function. As the OpenWrt [documentation]() states, "the device is turned into a mini linux PC with OpenWrt acting as the distribution, complete with almost all traditional linux commands and a package management system for easily loading on extra software and features."

OpenWrt supports WDS or [Wireless Distribution Protocol](). WDS allows multiple wireless base stations to Interconnect. Using this scheme, base stations can accept client connections and relay them to other relay base stations or to a main base station with a wired network connection. Often, this protocol is used when configuring a wireless network in a building with one wired connection, but it could just as easily form a cooperative neighborhood network.

More Steps to Go

As interesting as these developments are, they still only apply to Linksys hardware or other routers with very similar chipsets. This is far from a universal solution which lets diverse kinds of hardware base stations easily form into a community mesh. As hardware matures, however, it tends to gravitate to one standard while being differentiated by software. So, the technology exists and it may not be too long before neighbors can form their own networks even if [municipalities can't]().

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

University of North Texas   Computing Center

GroupWise 6.5 Tutorials

Hello, my name is Jason Gutierrez and I am one of your GroupWise system administrators. In addition, I teach three courses per semester in an effort to help you explore the potential of this powerful messaging and collaboration system. To this end, I will begin a new series of tutorials in the form of a weekly tutorial mailer and accompanying website. The tutorials I mail out will also be posted on our GroupWise tutorial website . If you have a GroupWise 6.5 related topic that you would like addressed, send it to Jason Gutierrez in GroupWise and I will respond to you right away.

Thank you,
Jason Gutierrez
GroupWise System Administrator
Network Computing Systems (NCS)
Computing and Information Technology Center (CITC)
at the University of North Texas (UNT)
jasong@unt.edu

Link of the Month

Benchmarks Online

IRC News

Minutes provided by Sue Ellen Richey, Recording Secretary*

July 19, 2005

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

DCSMT

Philip Baczewski reported that DCSMT met on July 1, at which time a report was presented on examining the extension of single sign-on to Netware services by synchronizing EUID and Netware passwords. A number of technical, management, and policy issues need to be addressed before such synchronization can be accomplished. These issues include the need for a synchronizing key between the two directories, such as EmplID, which may need to be populated by users or support staff. The Single Sign-on committee will continue to meet to address the issues. Also, on July 1, it was reported that a DCSMT subcommittee met to discuss making student ID Card pictures available to on campus applications. Several applications developers and support staff met in June to define requirements for ID Card picture use in online applications. Such implementation would respect FERPA withholding requirements. DCSMT met again on July 15, at which time discussions included the need to support file encryption on laptops and desktop systems when sensitive information is stored. This recommendation will be made this coming fall in a GroupWise message to all faculty and staff. Distributed network managers will be recommended as the primary support resource for implementing such encryption. Also discussed at the July 15 meeting was the fact that the University's contract for McAfee antivirus software support is up for renewal next May, 2006. While there are no identified problems with McAfee software, an ad hoc subcommittee of DCSMT is forming to examine what software options are available and what additional requirements, such as personal firewall or spyware protection, are needed.

Learning Enhancement Planning Group

Patrick Pluscht reported for the Learning Enhancement Planning Group that the committee is still investigating clicker technology.

Communications Planning Group

Lou Ann Bradley presented the Communications Planning Group's proposed charge for a vote. The Council unanimously voted to accept the proposal, which is as follows:

Investigate innovative and prospective communication technologies that will serve the UNT community and make recommendations to the Information Resources Council when appropriate and necessary.

EIS Planning Group

Coy Hoggard reported for the EIS Planning Group that the technical groups and functional area users are working on plans to do a major software version upgrade. They anticipate going from the current levels we have on all the applications to version 8.9. They expect that to be the last upgrade before converting to Oracle's new version called Fusion which will allegedly incorporate the functionality in all application areas of the existing PeopleSoft, Oracle and JD Edwards applications. Oracle is now saying that there will be a migration path either from version 8.9 or 9.0 to Fusion. This upgrade is being scheduled taking into account the dates on which the current levels of the applications will no longer be supported, or will no longer have enhancements and bug fixes. This will be a significant initiative and it is expected that upgrading some of the applications will begin as early as this fall. In addition, the Finance area is working on issues related to encumbering salaries. Also, electronic report distribution with the Cypress product is still being worked on and they will continue to add standard, or regularly produced reports. The Finance area is working on having the account statements delivered by way of Cypress beginning the first of August. Many of the tasks that were identified in the original project as Phase II tasks are now being worked on, including summer budget processing and HR management reports. For business intelligence reporting, the SAS business intelligence server has been selected for purchase and contract negotiations are currently underway, with plans to implement this during the upcoming fall semester. One issue being dealt with is processing capacity; therefore, two new application servers and some web servers will be put into production which will increase the current processing power by 25-30%.

WebCT Vista Migration

The Chair reported that the target date of June 1, 2006 is still set for finishing the rollover migration to WebCT Vista from Campus Edition. There are about 2/3 of the courses that are still on Campus Edition. A migration team has been set up to help faculty. A meeting is being held weekly with WebCT support staff to deal with current issues. They are delaying the implementation of a service pack to see what other users do. A lot of resources are still being spent on this. It has been suggested that a subgroup of IRC be formed under an existing Planning Group which can take as its charge the oversight of WebCT Vista. This would be a committee that would be a vehicle to get faculty involved in the working out of issues regarding WebCT. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner suggested that ODA be included in the subgroup to be sure that everything is ADA compliant. One thing they have already been looking into is automated testing using a product that was purchased to test the EIS software. The Chair suggested that Patrick Pluscht form a subgroup under his Learning Enhancement Planning Group.

Appointment of new members to IRC

The Chair announced that letters have gone out to Department Chairs, Deans and Vice Presidents asking for re-appointment of members, or appointment of new members to the IRC.

LEARN network

Maurice Leatherbury announced that the LEARN network is starting to get formed, and they have lighted fiber between College Station and San Antonio through Houston.

Funding for software upgrades

Maurice also announced that CITC has funding to pay for making the software upgrades referred to earlier by Coy Hoggard, as well as for some additional hardware. Seven new positions have been approved: one to help support WebCT; one position to help with tape backup and Storage Area Network management; three Programmer positions for the Fiscal Systems Team for EIS development; two for Learning Solutions development; as well as funding to continue an eighth position that was previously funded by EIS.

---

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

**DCSMT Minutes can be found here.

IRC Meeting Schedule

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

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Research and Statistical Support
University of North Texas

RSS Matters

Link to the last RSS article here: *Using Sparklines for Visual Representation, Part 1* - *Ed.*

## Using Sparklines for Visual Representation, Part 2

By **Patrick McLeod**, ACS Research Consultant

Introduction

Last month I introduced the concept of sparklines and gave some examples of how they might be employed to display data inline to better relate the visual display of information within the context of the discussion involving said information. In Part 2 of this article I'll share some tools for implementing sparklines in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Corel WordPerfect (I'm going on faith with this code since I do not have access to a copy of Corel WordPerfect). I'll conclude with some resources to find sparkline implementation in some common languages such as PHP, Python and Ruby.

Sparklines in Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel

For creating sparklines in Microsoft Word and in Microsoft Excel, I've found that the free Office add-on from the German company Bissantz works best unless you are comfortable writing Word and Excel macros. This add-on is called Sparkmaker and is free to download and install for use for personal non-commercial purposes. Once installed with will show up as the following icon on Microsoft Word:
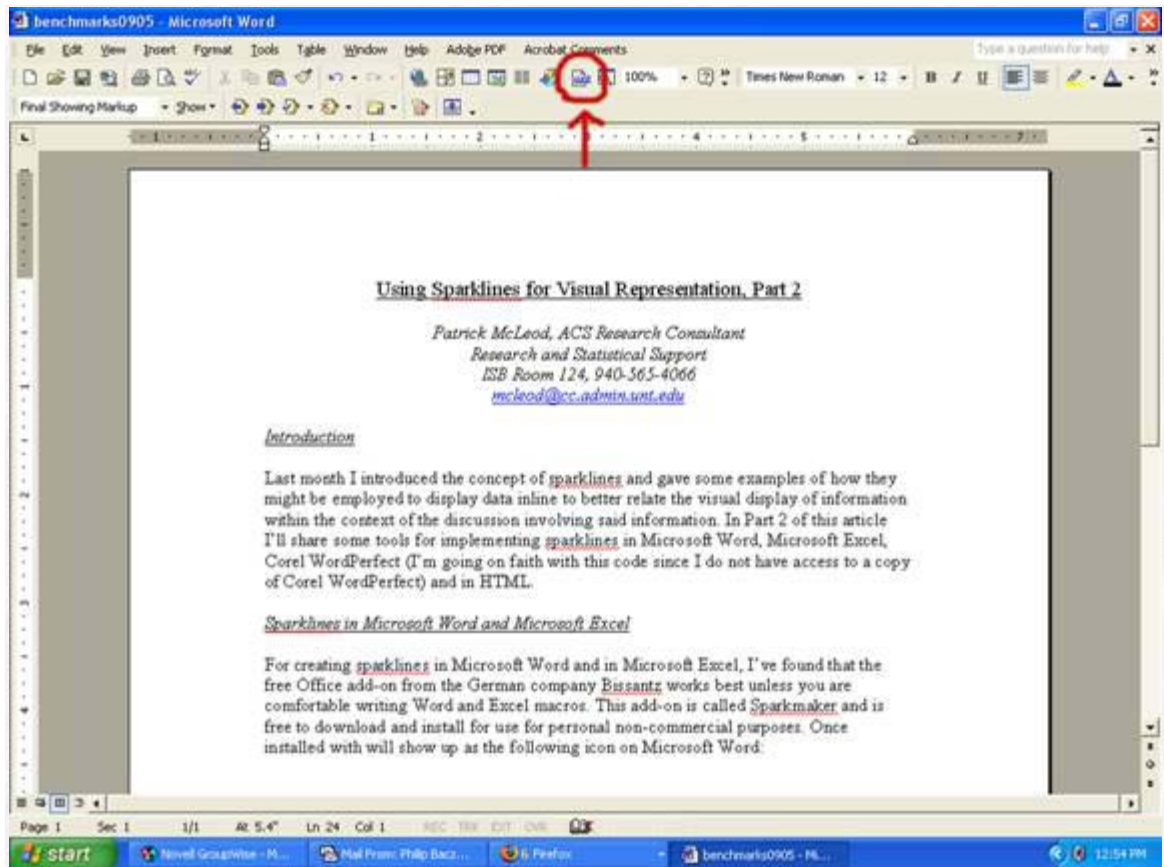
You can download SparkMaker by pointing your web browser at
http://www.bissantz.de/sparklines/ and scrolling down to the section titled "SparkMaker"
and clicking on the link for Bissantz SparkMaker 2.0 under the subsection "Download
Area." Before you install SparkMaker 2.0, be sure to exit any open instances of Office
applications. Since SparkMaker utilizes portions of the .NET framework with Office,
you may need to update your .NET framework and restart your computer before it will
work properly.

To use SparkMaker in Word, simply click on the button on the toolbar in the picture
above once you are to the point in the Word document where you want to insert your
sparkline:
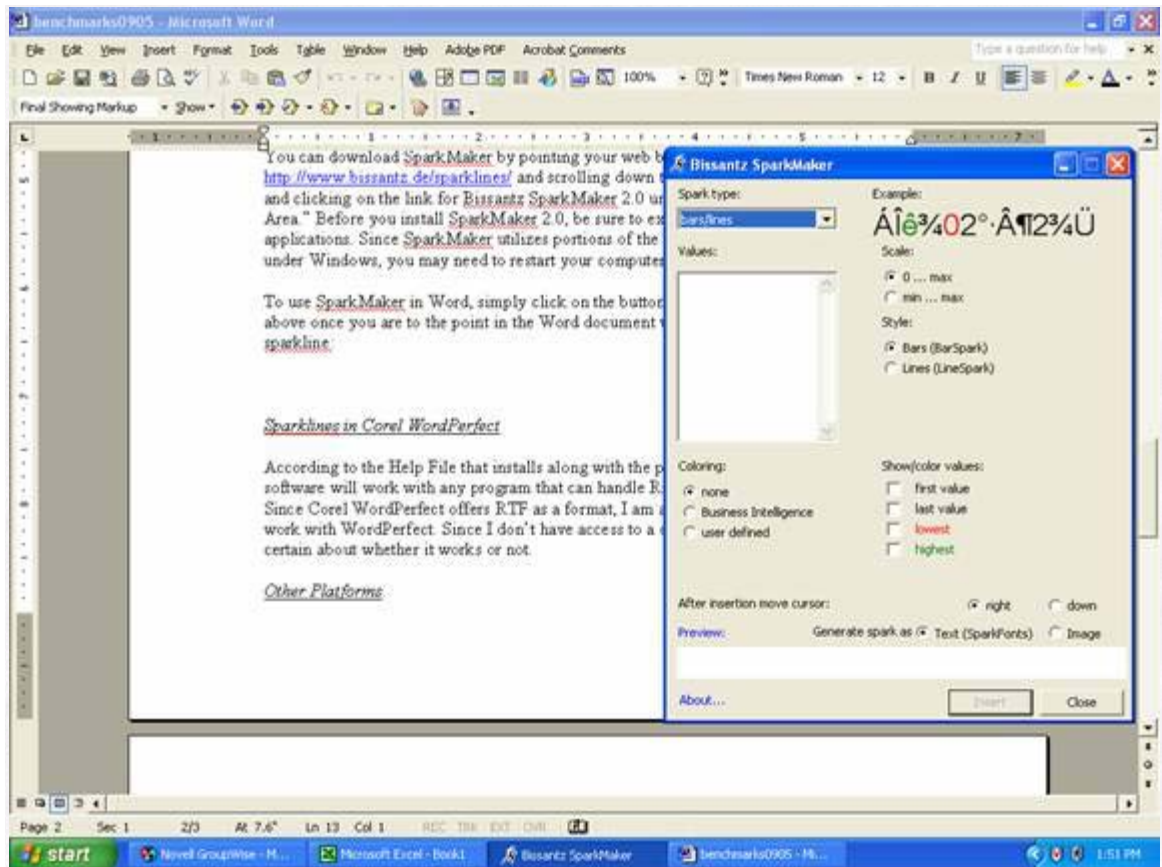
Once you've entered the values you're wanting to display as a sparkline, you can elect to either generate the spark as text (if you download the SparkFonts free package from the Bissantz website) or you can save the spark as a bitmap image (my choice) and then insert the spark or insert the image you generated into your Word document:
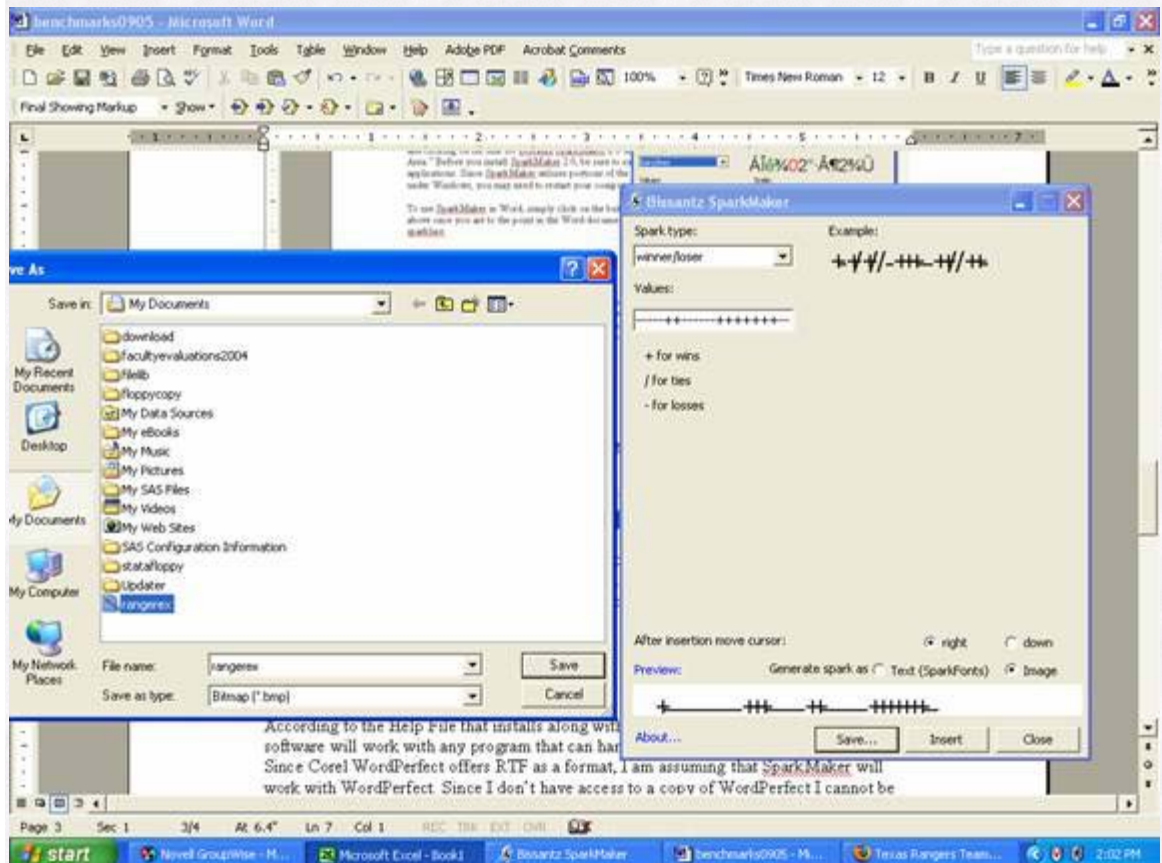
Sparklines in Corel WordPerfect

According to the Help File that installs along with the program, Bissantz's SparkMaker software will work with any program that can handle Rich Text Format (RTF) files. Since Corel WordPerfect offers RTF as a format, I am assuming that SparkMaker will work with WordPerfect. Since I don't have access to a copy of WordPerfect I cannot be certain about whether it works or not.

Other Platforms

If you're looking to implement sparklines in a language or on a platform not listed here, never fear! If your language or platform has an active coder base and is somewhat geared toward research, statistics and/or data mining, some has probably written a sparklines package or library or code snippet for your platform. Here are a handful I know of:

> PHP: Project SparkLine from SourceForge.net;

> Python: Bitworking article on drawing sparklines with the Python Imaging Library;

> Ruby on Rails: Weed (MIT open source, does not require Rmagick) and Geoff Grosenbach's Rails sparklines library (requires Rmagick).

Until next month, happy computing!

Links:

- Edward Tufte on Sparkline Implementation: http://www.edwardtufte.com/bboard/q-and-a-fetch-msg?msg_id=0000Lk&topic_id=1

- Edward Tufte on New Sparklines: http://www.edwardtufte.com/bboard/q-and-a-fetch-msg?msg_id=0001OR&topic_id=1

- Sparkline.Org: http://www.sparkline.org/

- Sparkline Wiki: http://sparkline.wikispaces.org/

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Central Web Support Staff

By Claudia Lynch, *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Time to update you on the current "cast of characters" in the Central Web Support (CWS) area. So, following is the list of the people in CWS and their duties (descriptions provided by Shane Jester):

- **Shane Jester** – Central Web Support Manager.

- **Charity Beck** – Web Developer. Charity is our design and content expert. She also performs many system administration duties on our web servers.

- **Shannon Peevey** – Web Developer. Shannon is in charge of running our database and dynamic content servers.

- **Scott Simon** – Portal Administrator. Scott works with the EIS project on all things portal, including design implementation and application integration.

- **JPWilliams** – Web Developer. JP works with special projects in CWS as well as assists Charity and Shannon with system administration duties.

- **Palla Srikanth** – Student assistant.

For further contact information, see the CWS contact webpage.

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Short Courses

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

The schedule for the fall Short Courses is still being finalized, but there are other training opportunities available. Surf over to the Short Courses page for a sample of the sorts of courses that will be offered this fall (starting in October).

Customized Short Courses

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

Especially for Faculty and Staff Members

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

EIS Training

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

- EIS Training Event Calendar: https://projectweb.cc.unt.edu/cm/Lists/Events/calendar.htm

- EIS Timekeeper Training Schedule: http://www.unt.edu/eis/WebHelp/EIS_Glossary.htm

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

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

GroupWise Training

Information about GroupWise training can be found at the GroupWise Support site. A list of GroupWise 6.5 "Tutorial Topics" can be found here: http://ncs.unt.edu/gw/howto/index.htm A GroupWise 6.5 Training CD-ROM is

also available. See "Installing and Using GroupWise 6.5 CD-ROM Training from Thomson NETg" in the June issue of *Benchmarks Online* for more information.

GroupWise 6.5 Seminars

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

Center for Distributed Learning

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

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

Technical Training

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

UNT Mini-Courses

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

Alternate Forms of Training

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

For further information on CBT at UNT, see the article "Current UNT Online Training Contents" in the June issue of *Benchmarks Online*.

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Benchmarks Online

Staff Activities

Transitions

New Employee:

- **Marc Knight**, Information Security Intern.

- **Srinivasa Kommineni,** ACS GAL Consultant (part-time).

No longer working in the Computing and Information Technology Center:

- **Linda Terry**, Information Operator Supervisor - Retiring September 23.

- **Michael Teer,** Datacomm Technician (part-time).

Changes:

- **Sue Ellen Richey,** Administrative Services, was honored by the University at a reception for retiring faculty and staff in the Diamond Eagle Suite on April 26. Her last day of full-time employment in the CITC was August 31. She will return in October on a half-time basis.

Awards, Recognition, Publications, etc.

Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, Student Computing Services Manager, received an ASCAP Composers Fellowship ($500) for her creative musical work during the 2005-2006 year. Hinkle-Turner was also named Vice-President of the International Alliance for Women in Music (IAWM).

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Benchmarks Online

Don't Forget Our Monthly Columns!

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

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

- **RSS Matters** - "RSS Matters" is the monthly column written by the Research and Statistical Support Group in Academic Computing Services. Their articles focus on topics of a statistical and/or research methods nature. **This month, Patrick McLeod continues talking about Sparklines in "Using Sparklines for Visual Representation, Part 2."**

- **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 tells us we are "One Step Closer" to peer-to-peer wireless networks of "neighbors." 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 month's feature is a "GroupWise 6.5 Tutorials."**

- **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, read all about the "Central Web Support Staff."**

- **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 fall Short Courses is still being finalized, but there are other training opportunities available.**

- **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 July minutes were published this month.**

Don't Forget Our Monthly Columns!

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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