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Campus Computing News

Internet Security at UNT - What You Can Do

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

National and local press outlets continue to report frequent Internet security breaches at academic institutions around the country, to the point that universities are being accused of being irresponsible about protecting their students and staff. I'm sure that you share my resolve to keep UNT's name out of the negative press that accompanies security breaches, so I want to let you know what UNT is doing and more importantly, what you can do to help us prevent security breaches at our university.

We have a number of defenses against security breaches here at UNT (this list isn't comprehensive but includes our major tools):

- Virus protection is (or should be) installed on each computer on our network to prevent attackers from gaining access to those computers.
- We've stopped using social security numbers as identification numbers for students, faculty, and staff, reducing the risk of exposure of that important ID to anyone who does manage to break into computers here.
- We scan network-attached computers for weaknesses in their configurations, such as their not being patched with the latest software versions or their having known "malware" running.
- We watch network traffic for suspicious activity such as social security numbers being sent in clear text off campus, or the complete directory of a computer being sent to someone off campus. When we do see something suspicious, we quickly work to investigate the computer sending that information.

These measures have been effective in the past year, but attackers are increasingly clever in devising means by which to bypass our defenses. Therefore, we are enlisting the aid of everyone at UNT to help us protect our community from security breaches. Here are three simple steps that you can take to help:

1. Keep your computer physically secure by locking your door when you leave your office, by locking your laptop in the trunk of your car rather than leaving it on the seat when you're away from your car, and doing the other ordinary things that you do to protect your purse or your wallet. If you transfer sensitive information to a USB drive or a CD-ROM, etc., be extra careful about exposing the device to theft or loss.
2. Protect your computer with a screen saver that requires you to enter your password after a period of inactivity (generally about 10 to 20 minutes.) This is important

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because if you leave your office open and then step away, anyone can come in and view your screen. If you inadvertently left a student record up on the screen, for example, the student's information could then be compromised.

3. Don't store personally identifiable information such as social security numbers, credit card numbers, or bank account numbers on your computer unless absolutely necessary! Many of us have old personnel appraisals with SSN's on them, or old class rosters with SSN's still lingering on our desktop computers. Move those files to better-protected network drives or better yet, delete the personally identifiable information from those files or delete the whole files themselves.

More security tips and information about information security can be found on UNT's Information Security web site at <http://www.unt.edu/security/>. Your [network manager](#) can also help you secure your computer if you have questions.

Thomas Jefferson has been quoted as saying that "eternal vigilance is the price of freedom." Today, he might well say that eternal vigilance is also the price of Internet security. Please continue to help UNT stay vigilant - and free from security breaches.

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The Academic Computing Services High-Performance Computing Initiative

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

Since 2001, UNT's Academic Computing Services has supported multiple clusters of 32 and 64-bit processor systems running Linux for compute-intensive scientific research. Cluster computing provides dedicated systems for concurrent processing of jobs in a batch environment. Most jobs run on a single compute node and can utilize up to 100% of that node's processor and memory resources. Additionally, we support a cluster in which multiple nodes can be used to run a single computer program that has been optimized for this kind of parallel processing. Recently, we have added two high-performance multi-processor systems that can run jobs previously possible only at national super-computing centers.

These high-performance systems have been used primarily for scientific research, however, they are available for any computationally-intensive research done by UNT Faculty and graduate students. Our current configuration of systems includes 50 32-bit CPUs, 104 64-bit CPU cores, 336 Gigabytes of RAM, and about 20 Terabytes of disk storage. This information is not a useful technical description, but it does provide an interesting overview of the facility.

The following table shows the current configuration of our HPC systems.

System Name	Available Storage***	Number of Nodes	Processor Type	Processors per Node	RAM per Node	Storage per Node
AFS	2.5 TB	8	64-bit	4	8G	250 GB
TB1*	2.4 TB	1	64-bit	16	16G	2.4 TB
TB2**	1.5 TB	24	32-bit	2	2G	200 GB
TB4	2.4 TB	24	64-bit	2	8G	250 GB
TB5*	1.5 TB	1	64-bit	8	16G	1.5 TB

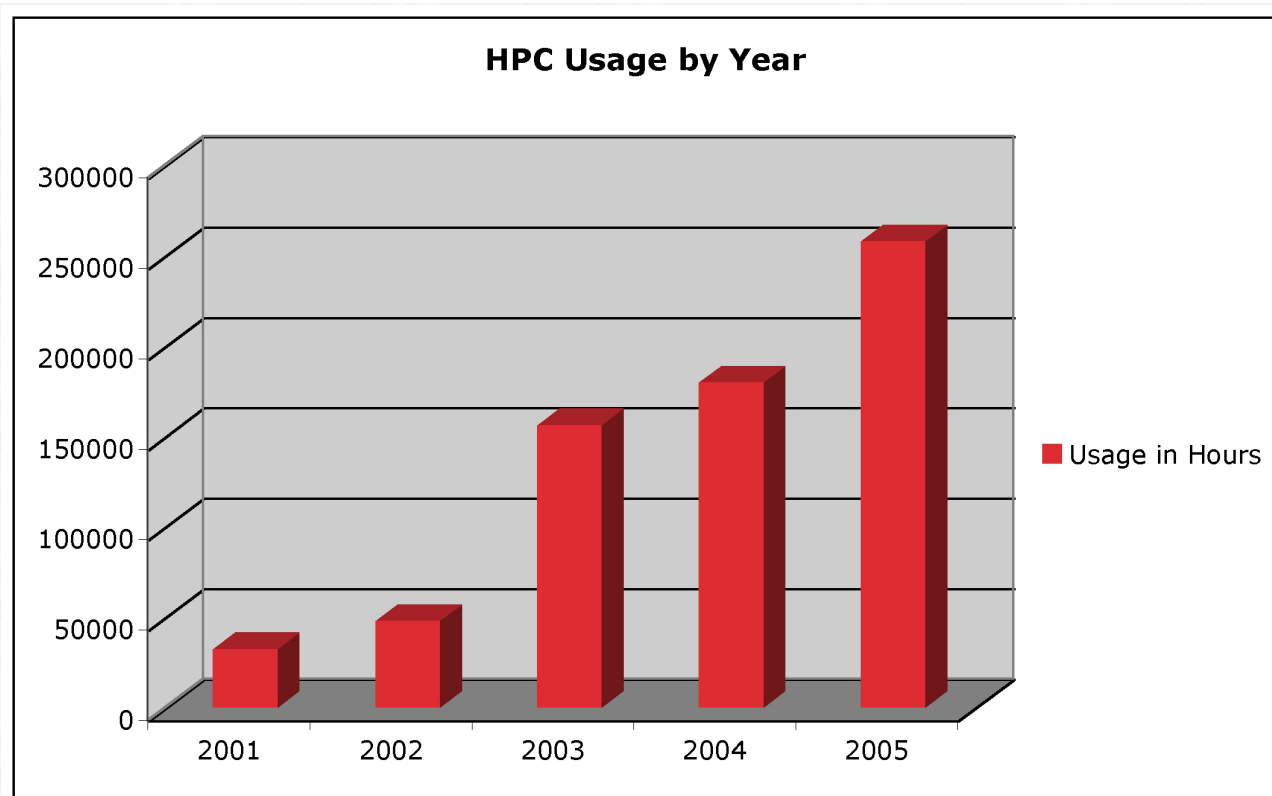
NOTES:

*Standalone multi-processor systems

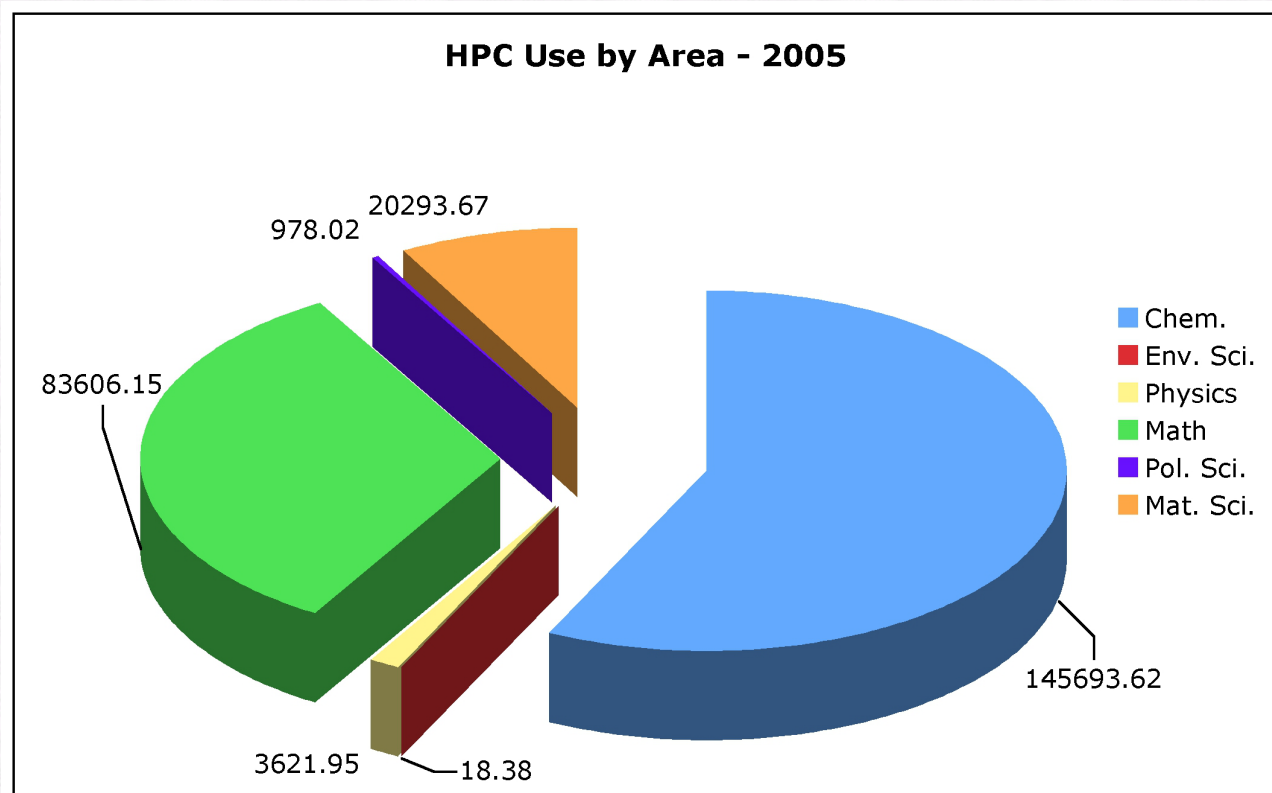
**Parallel processing capability via a Myrinet high-speed interconnect between nodes

***Storage listed is for cluster controller systems

The following graphs show usage trends for the ACS HPC systems. The graph immediately below shows the increase in the number of compute hours on an annual basis. In 2005 alone, that's about 28.5 years of compute time used on all HPC systems combined.



This next graph shows the research areas which have utilized the ACS HPC systems in the 2005 calendar year, partitioned by hours of compute time. Our greatest amount of usage has been in the area of computational chemistry, however, math and other areas have employed HPC systems for their research problems, including a grant-supported project in political science.



The CITC ACS HPC systems support the University research mission. It is hoped that we can provide a springboard that enables researchers to pursue projects that have, or eventually will, attract grant funding to

the University, and lead to the development of additional research infrastructure on campus. A [bibliography](#) representing work accomplished with support from UNT ACS HPC computing staff and/or resources can be found on the HPC project [site](#).

For more information about the CITC ACS HPC initiative, please contact [Dr. Philip Baczewski](#), Director of [Academic Computing and User Services](#) in the UNT [Computing and Information Technology Center](#).

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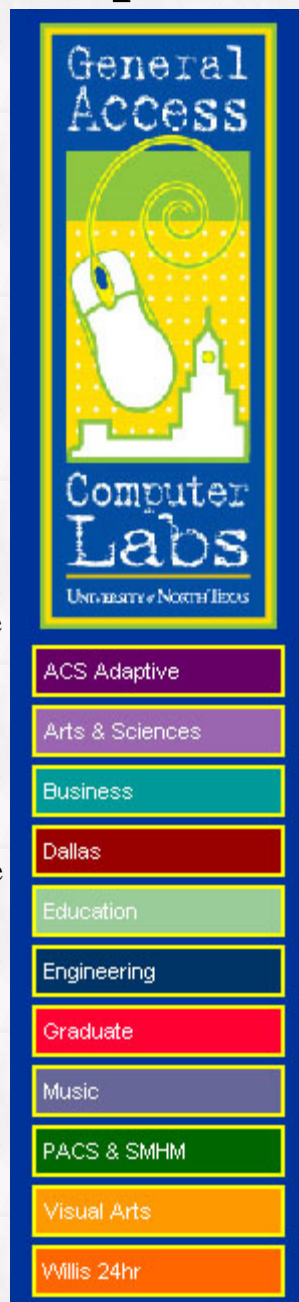
By [Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner](#), Student Computing Services Manager

The General Access Computer Lab managers were busy once again this summer during the 'slow season' making the labs better and brighter in anticipation of the fall semester and a new entering class. This summer the majority of the work was done in cleaning, stabilizing systems and making sure everything was up and running in peak condition but some of the labs also undertook large-scale remodeling projects, extensive renewal of staffing, management changes, and hardware and software upgrades.

It should also be noted that the lab managers completed and had printed a significantly updated General Access Lab brochure featuring a color-coded, easy-to-read map of the [GAL system](#) and extensive listings of their hours (including new later closing times for many labs). These new brochures along with updated literature about computing security, research and statistical support services, and general student computing services were distributed to over 7,000 new students and their parents this summer and are available to the entire UNT community at all the check-in desks of the computer labs and in our many campus libraries.

The [Academic Computing Services Adaptive Lab](#) updated all of its Windows machine 'images' with the latest copies of all the statistical software available for general use on campus. Additionally all stations in this lab have the new JAWS 7.0 screen reading software and MAGic 9.5 screen magnification software. The Tiger Braille Embosser has been sent to Washington for repairs and servicing and the lab is expecting the arrival of a CCTV magnification unit in a few weeks.

The [College of Arts and Sciences](#) is undertaking a massive remodeling of the GAB 330 lab which will open again in a few weeks and will house many more computers than previously. This remodeling project will be featured in a future issue of *Benchmarks Online*. Over the next two months all of the CAS GALs will be getting upgraded computer hardware.



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The [College of Business Administration](#) installed all new color printers and the [School of Library and Information Science](#) has hired as an assistant lab manager, Dr. Josi Reyna. The [College of Public Affairs and Community Service lab](#) is now open 24/5 (these hours were featured in last month's *Benchmarks Online* [here](#).) and has also added more email/web-surfing kiosks in the hallways outside of the lab area. The [School of Music](#), [School of Visual Arts](#), [System Center Dallas](#), [Willis 24-hour](#), and [College of Engineering](#) report that they spent the summer improving their existing facilities and services. It should also be noted that both the Willis Library proper and the other two campus libraries (in the ISB and at the Research Park) now have public machines with several popular software applications for use in their areas (also featured in the [above-mentioned article](#)).

Finally, the [College of Education lab](#) added 4 additional work stations to increase the number of their stations to 87 stations in addition to the four hall stations. They are continuing with the practice (adopted by several other labs) of not retaining student ID's and are experimenting with the requirement that students log into the work station. Two electronic signs were added to remind the student to log out of the station. The other labs are monitoring the results of this experiment to see if it helps to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of our lab service overall.

The General Access Computer Lab managers hope that these summer efforts will continue to make our the computer lab user experience a pleasant and productive one. Have a great year!

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Fall 2006 - Computer-Based Training Update



By [Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner](#), Student Computing Services Manager

A few things have changed with the administration of our computer-based training here on campus.

Request for User Account Now Needed

Anyone who became part of the university community AFTER March 2006 will need to now request an online training account activation from me - Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, the CBT administrator - at ehinkle@unt.edu. This is because our UNT enterprise has become so large that the SkillPort and KnowledgeNet systems cannot effectively handle such large pre-made account rolls. People who were part of the university community prior to March 2006 should have pre-made accounts in the system.

So, if you attempt to login to SkillPort or KnowledgeNet and get a service denial, simply contact me and I will make that account for you right away. This is especially important for students to note who may have CBT requirements in their classes and professors who ARE requiring such training completion by their students (as well as supervisors requiring CBT from their employees) are welcome to send me a roll list of users so I can make sure their accounts are all made well in advance of the due date. This means - Dr. Gretchen Bataille - if you want to do some PowerPoint training, you will have to send me an email!



KnowledgeNet System to be Phased Out and Replaced with Expanded System

Secondly, the KnowledgeNet computer-based training system will be taken down as soon as the approval and payment of an expanded contract with SkillPort has been completed (target date January 2007). KnowledgeNet was one of the systems used for Microsoft Office training. We have found that the SkillPort system is more flexible and accommodating of our ever-changing enterprise needs and our new contract will allow us to offer access to over 2,000 courses covering not only information technology, applications, and operating

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systems but also the areas of risk management, budgeting, compliance, and human resources. I look forward to reporting more on this change in the future.

Questions?

Users of the computer-based training services are reminded to go to www.unt.edu/cbt for a complete explanation of all online training including tutorials in its use and a table of contents of our current course offerings. Further questions about our CBT systems can be directed to me at ehinkle@unt.edu.

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EDUCAUSE Coming in October



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

The EDUCAUSE annual conference is coming to Dallas next month. Mark your calendars for October 9-12. This year's theme is "Spurring Innovation and Marshalling Resources," and as you can see below, the General Session speakers are not to be missed! More information can be found at the conference [website](#).

General Session Speakers



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Everything You Need to Know About Computing Resources at the University of North Texas

So much good information, we're publishing this twice! Please note the new Helpdesk website is this month's ["Link of the Month"](#). Also, the "Enterprise Information Systems Update," below, has a new URL and we've added the [CBT Update](#) article from this issue to the Training list. -- ED.

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

The time has come, once again, to review the computing resources that are available to the UNT campus community. Many resources are available regardless of status - students, faculty or staff. Others are available only to a subset of those people, usually either students or faculty and staff. With that in mind, the articles and links below will lead you to all sorts of useful information.

Students

[What Every UNT Student Should Know About Computing Services](#) - This article covers a wide variety of computing services and resources available to students: E-mail, *myunt*, General Access Computer Labs, UNT Student Storage, ResNet, Eaglenet Wireless Network, free anti-virus software, CITC Helpdesk, various training opportunities, and Research and Statistical Support services.

[Detailed Map of General Access Computer Lab System Now Available](#) - to assist students in finding all of the general computing resources available to them on the Denton Campus and at the Research Park.

[Inexpensive Software Available to Students](#) - "the University Bookstore has a variety of software available for students at greatly discounted educational prices."

Faculty, Staff and Students

Accessibility - The ACS General Access [Lab](#), in ISB 110, has as the mission "to provide general services to the UNT community with an emphasis on the special features that Academic Computing Services has to offer including helpdesk support and research assistance. Additionally the ACS lab is the designated adaptive lab on campus providing state-of-the-art adaptive equipment for those who need it. For more information about adaptive services on the UNT campus visit the [Office of Disability Accommodation](#)." Recent

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developments with adaptive software at UNT are chronicled in this issue of *Benchmarks Online* (see the article index on the left of this page).

[CITC Helpdesk](#) - Need Help? This is the place to come for assistance. The website includes the handy [Quick Guide to UNT Computing Resources](#).

[Eaglenet, the wireless network](#) - this website includes a "Quick Start Guide," Eaglenet configuration requirements, Wireless Network FAQ's, the Network Connections Policy and many other useful bits of information.

[Peer-to-Peer Software and You](#) - the unauthorized or illegal use of peer-to-peer (P2P) software on state computer systems is prohibited, that includes ResNet.

[Who Are You? Computer User Identification at UNT](#) - This article answers questions about the number of ways to make ourselves known to the computers on campus, depending on the setting.

[Gartner Core Research Services Now Available to the UNT Community](#) - "Gartner Core Research contains a large base of knowledge regarding IT technologies, markets, and industries. It supplies easy access to data and analysis about the latest news, trends, products, and insights within the field of information technology. The Research for Higher Education section is designed to meet the specific needs of students, faculty and staff as well as technology professionals within the University. It offers unparalleled depth and breadth of research developed by analysts who have extensive backgrounds and it strives for objectivity and independence."

[Why Strong Passwords?](#) - discusses the rationale behind the strong password requirements here at UNT.

[Computer Security](#) - tips and resources to help you and the UNT community (pdf).

[Copyright Laws](#) - Copyright and file sharing: UNT policy and federal laws (pdf).

[Research and Statistical Support](#) - "The mission of the Research and Statistical Support (RSS) group at the University of North Texas (UNT) is to facilitate access to current research tools and statistical methodologies and to promote these methods to the research, instructional, and administrative communities at UNT; to encourage a collaborative research environment for researchers through the development and use of innovative computing technologies; to provide training and consultation in the appropriate use of statistical methodologies and computer software; and to facilitate access to data collection and data management technologies. "

Training

Computer-based training (CBT):

[Welcome to Computer-Based Training at UNT for Students, Faculty, and Staff](#)

[Fall 2006 - Computer-Based Training Update](#)

[SkillSoft Site Re-organized With New Course Offerings](#)

[SkillPort and Thomson NETg Offer Easy-to-use Browser Compatibility Testing for Online Learning](#)

[Using the Adobe Education Website - Revised November 2005](#)

Short Courses:

Every semester Academic Computing Services (ACS) offers a series of [short courses](#) for the university community. Many of them are research-related.

[Other training resources](#)

Faculty and Staff

[Microsoft Products Available to UNT Employees at Low Cost](#) - "For a number of years, UNT has had an agreement with Microsoft that allows us to distribute various Microsoft products to employees of the University . . . This agreement does not cover students unless those students are also UNT employees, nor does it cover UNT Health Science Center employees."

[What is UNT's policy with regard to GroupWise mail?](#) - detailed discussion of the expectations and options for faculty and staff with regard to GroupWise mail.

[Electronic Records: \(Almost\) Everything You Need to Know: Part I](#) - this article begins the process of answering the question "Why is 'records management' important?"

[Data Security and Identity Theft at UNT](#) - all of us have to be increasingly vigilant about protecting our computing resources, this article details ways to accomplish that.

[Faculty Evaluation Processing Tips](#) - "some helpful tips on preparing your department's evaluations for processing by Data Management."

[Enterprise Information Systems Update](#) - "theEnterprise is a quarterly news update aimed at sharing information on current trends, project updates and upcoming training opportunities available to staff." Click [here](#) for the latest issue.

Faculty

[The Center for Distributed Learning \(CDL\)](#) - "a service to assist faculty with the development and delivery of distributed learning at UNT. The Center combines technology resources with expert consultation and personnel, in an effort to provide faculty with a "one-stop" guide to technology-based courses."

[Using Turnitin to Prevent Plagiarism](#) - "Instructors at the University of North Texas have access to Turnitin's plagiarism prevention system to deter plagiarism and promote academic integrity."

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Today's Cartoon

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“It’s a cell phone, camera, and music player. If you set the ringer to ‘vibrate’ and stick it in your sock, it’s also a foot massager.”

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

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Network Connection

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

News from the Online World

The news never stops about the online world. Just off the virtual presses is the fact that [PC World Magazine](#) has named [myspace.com](#) as its [#1 worst web site](#). They state, "Graphically, many MySpace pages look like a teenager's bedroom after a tornado--a swirl of clashing backgrounds, boxes stacked inside other boxes, massive photos, and sonic disturbance." That statement comes packed within a swirl of animated online ads, related links, more ads, site navigation, and more ads. Very perceptive are those PC World folks.

Staying on the MySpace theme, someone has claimed to have analyzed [20,000 MySpace passwords](#) that were retrieved from a phishing site targeting MySpace users. According to the analysis, most passwords were about 7 characters, single case, and included at least one number. It turns out that many passwords included or simply were the word, "password." So, MySpace users may keep their pages messy, but the keep their passwords simple.

Not to be outdone by MySpace, [NPR's On the Media](#) reported on the [YouTube](#) phenomenon of [lonelygirl15](#) who, after posting a video blog of her lonely teenage existence that elicited a multitude of video responses and commentary by concerned and interested YouTube watchers, turns out to be an aspiring 19-year-old actress impersonating a 15-year-old girl. (For the whole story, listen [here](#).) This may be the first time in Internet history that a 15-year-old girl wasn't impersonated by a 40-year-old vice cop named Vinny.

In the world of online academia, [The Concerned Professor](#) laments the decline of academic honesty and blames it on the Internet. In particular, he sites the usual suspects like Wikipedia and also singles out a site named [Student of Fortune](#), where students can post questions and offer a set fee to get a satisfactory answer. If you do that face-to-face that's called a tutor, but online, I guess that's cheating. Still, when I see that help on a passage from Plato's republic goes for \$4.00 when a mechanical physics question only gets you \$1.25, I realize that the online world may be the only place where it pays to be a philosophy major.

[Professor Robert Schrag](#) has a different view of the Internet. He received attention recently when he began [selling](#) his in-class lectures as downloadable audio files. According to the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#), however, Schrag has [suspended](#) that practice at the request of his Dean at North Carolina State University. Schrag only charged \$2.50 per download, of which only \$1.00 came back to him, an amount he justified by the extra work he was doing to record and prepare the lectures for download. An [editorial](#) in the NCSU student newspaper states, "These online lectures are supposedly aimed at students who are afraid they are not good note-takers, have missed classes or are international students who may have trouble understanding an English-speaking professor. It makes sense that these types of students could utilize an online lecture resource, but should they be financially penalized for it?" Well, there's always [Student of Fortune](#).

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Finally, the Hard Drive [turned 50](#) last week. When asked to comment on the gigabyte hard drives that fit within the space of an inch, the hard drive purportedly stated, "when I was born, it took two cabinets the size of refrigerators to hold my 5 megabytes. These new drives today almost seem like cheating." The Concerned Professor could not be reached for comment.

That's the news from the online world. We now return you to your [regular](#) news web site.

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Month**

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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 CITC Helpdesk webpage has a new look, and with new, easy pathways to important and useful information. As the welcome message states:

Welcome to the new and improved Helpsite! We have redesigned the site to be more useful, and hopefully easier to use. In addition to a redesign, many of our tutorials have been updated to Help you find information even faster!

Check it out: <http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/>

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IRC News



Minutes provided by Sue Ellen Richey,
Recording Secretary*

There was no meeting of the IRC in August.

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

Tinn-R: A Convenient Script Editor for R on the Win32 Platform

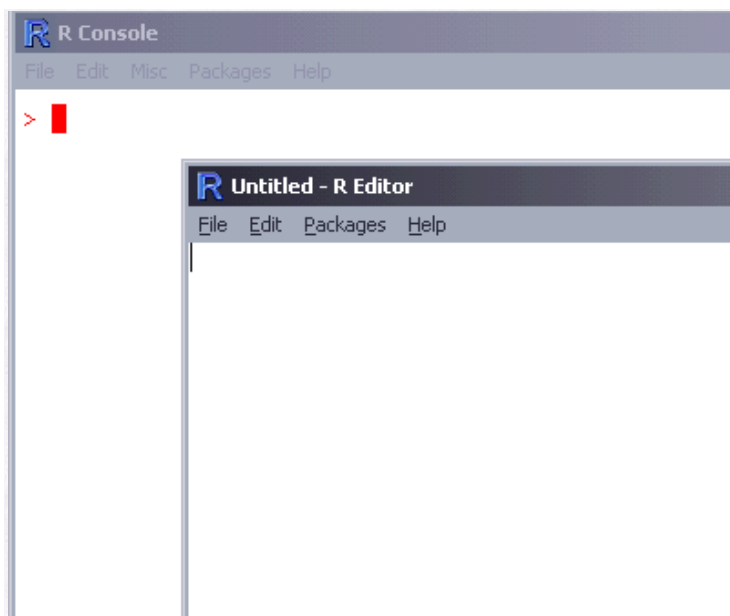
Link to the last RSS article here: [RSS FAQ](#) - Ed.

By [Dr Rich Herrington](#), ACS Research and Statistical Support Services Consultant

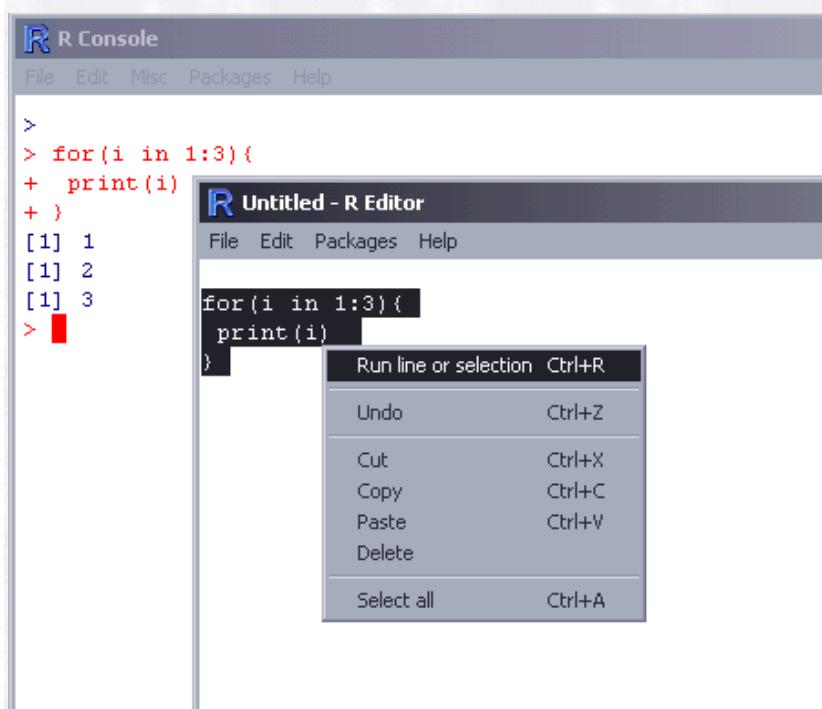
The S language was designed to translate statistical ideas into software implementations quickly and faithfully. In recognition of the success of this endeavor, the [Association for Computing Machinery \(ACM\)](#) presented their prestigious [Software System Award](#) to [John Chambers](#), the principal developer of the S language. The implementation of S that we will concern ourselves with here is the GNU version of S - [R](#). R is a cross-platform statistical programming environment that is increasingly evolving into a system that is closely integrated with the underlying operating system environments on which R is maintained. On Unix and Linux platforms, many IDE applications are available to choose from (IDE - [integrated development environment](#) or source code editor). Text based editors can be used for editing the R scripts: [Emacs](#) is one such editor; [Vi](#) is another popular editor for UNIX based systems. However, an IDE provides further enhancements such as color coding of syntax; a pager or execution shell that allows concurrent compiling and debugging of source code; the ability to paste in code templates for the different language constructs (e.g. loops; case-statements, etc); to name a few. Here, we discuss **Tinn-R**, a Win32 based GNU project (see [SourceForge project page](#)) that serves some of the purposes of an IDE for the R console on the Windows platform.

The R Script Editor

R comes with a built in script editor (from the R console go to the **File-New Script** menu entry). Invoking the script editor produces the following:



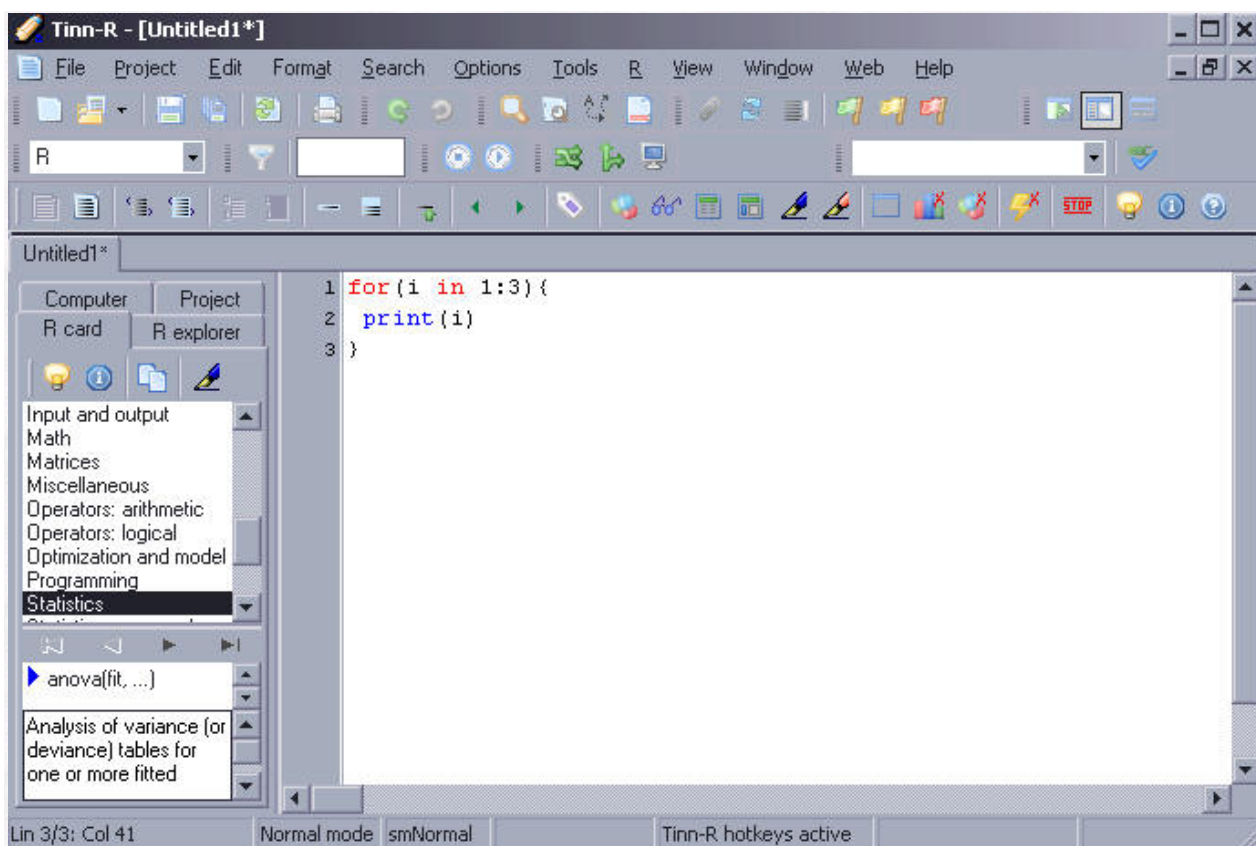
To use this editor, a script is typed into the R Editor (or a script file is loaded). Then a user selects the R script in the R editor window (i.e. mouse select and drag operation of the relevant R script). Finally, a right mouse click and selection of "**Run line or selection**" produces output in the R console window. For example, the red and blue output in the R console is produced below:



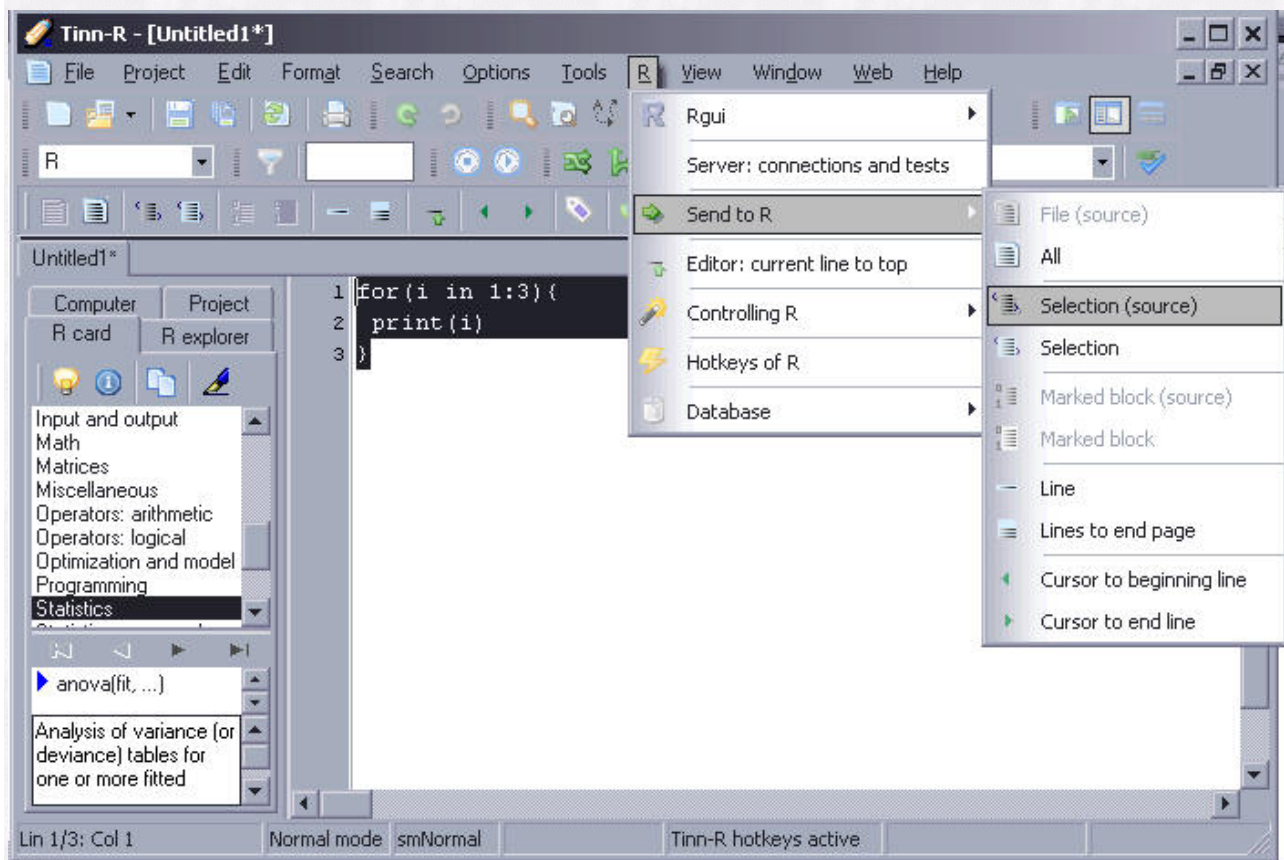
The R editor that is integrated into the R Windows installation is a fairly basic and feature-less editor - a far cry from an IDE. However, the Tinn-R editor is an indispensable helper tool for users of R on the Windows platform.

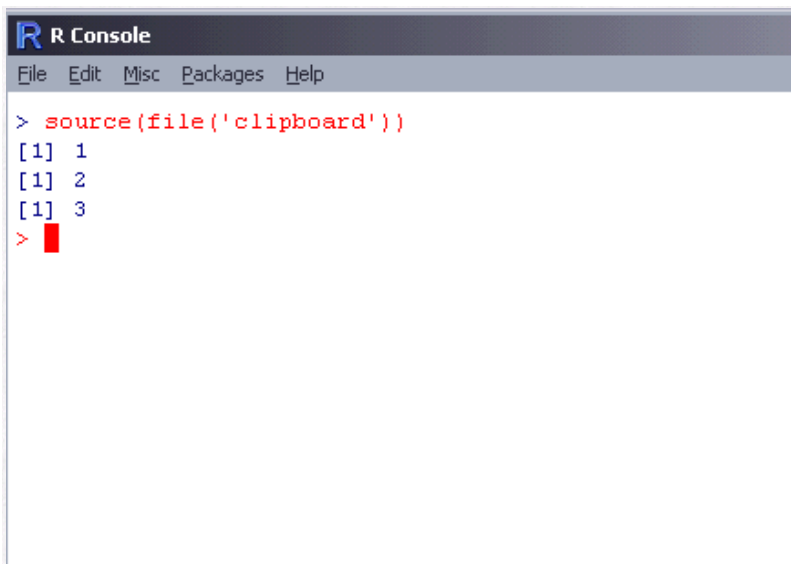
Tinn-R

The Tinn is an editor under development under Borland - Delphi 5. Tinn-R is licensed under GPL (GNU Public License) and can be downloaded from the [SourceForge project Page](#). Tinn-R contains enhancements to allow syntax highlighting of S language. Additionally, Tinn-R interacts with the R console and submits code in part or in whole to R directly:



For example, the following produces output in the R console:





```
R Console
File Edit Misc Packages Help

> source(file('clipboard'))
[1] 1
[1] 2
[1] 3
>
```

Some of the general features of Tinn-R are: syntax highlighting for R code as well as many as 20 other languages; bracket matching; project management (with multiple files); copy code with syntax coloring in RTF, HTML or TeX; and Tinn-R can act as a TeX compile shell. A major advantage of using Tinn-R is that if R crashes (which does happen rarely), one doesn't lose all of the R code that has been written but not yet saved to file. Another advantage is that one can return to Tinn-R and continue writing R code while is performing computations. A nice tutorial on downloading, installing R and Tinn-R can be found at: <http://mcs.une.edu.au/~Rguide/Rnotes.pdf> (a [local copy is housed here at RSS](#)).

Special Announcements: RSS will be maintaining a blog devoted to research and statistics related news - [RSS-Blogs](#); Additionally, RSS will be maintaining a Zope/Plone website devoted organizing communities and resources involved in survey research - [RSS-Surveys](#).

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Central Web Support Tutorials, and More

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

The Central Web Support website has a tutorials [page](#) that may be just what you have been looking for. The following topics are covered:

- **Web Statistics**
- **FrontPage 2000**
- **Getting Started with Dreamweaver**
- **Publishing to people.unt.edu**
- **Using WebDAV to access your website**
- **UNT Search Engine**

The FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions [page](#) has a lot of useful information also.

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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 fall. Classes on SAS, Stata, SPSS, R & S-Plus Programming, New Technologies for Survey Research, and LaTeX.

Customized Short Courses

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

Especially for Faculty and Staff Members

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

EIS Training

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

- Learning to Use EIS: <http://eis.unt.edu/node/10>
- EIS Timekeeper Training Schedule: <http://www.unt.edu/hr/eis/timetrain.htm>
- EIS ePro Training Calendar: <http://www.unt.edu/pps/trainingcalendar.htm>
- Ongoing training is available on WebCT at: <http://eis.unt.edu/node/45>

GroupWise Training

Information about GroupWise training can be found at the GroupWise Support [site](#). A list of GroupWise 7.0 "Tutorial Topics" can be found here: <http://ncs.unt.edu/gw/howto/index.htm> See "What's New in GroupWise 7" here: <http://ncs.unt.edu/gw/howto/info/whatsnew/index.htm> also.

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GroupWise 7.0 Seminars

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

Center for Distributed Learning

The Center for Distributed Learning offers courses especially for Faculty Members. A list of topics and further information can be found at <http://cdl.unt.edu/index2.cfm?M=8&SM=9>

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.unt.edu/minicourses/>

Alternate Forms of Training

Many of the [General Access Labs](#) around campus have tutorials installed on their computers. The Library has a [Computer Training Resources](#) webpage with lots of resources listed. The [Training](#) website also has all sorts of information about alternate forms of training. Computer Based Training (CBT) is one of the alternatives offered.

For further information on CBT at UNT, see the CBT [website](#). Note the article in this issue of *Benchmarks Online*, "[Fall 2006 - Computer-Based Training Update.](#)" Note also, two articles in the November issue of *Benchmarks Online*, "[Using the Adobe Education Website - Revised November 2005](#)" and "[SkillPort and Thomson NETg Offer Easy-to-use Browser Compatibility Testing for Online Learning.](#)" The recently published article "[Project Management Courses Added to the SkillPort CBT Website](#)" may also be of interest.

The article [Tracking Progress in New KnowledgeNet Courses](#) in the January issue of *Benchmarks Online* gives instructions on how to set up tracking for each course. The article [SkillSoft Site Re-organized With New Course Offerings](#) in the April issue of *Benchmarks Online* should also be noted. This information is also available on the [CBT website](#).

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Staff Activities

Transitions

New Employees:

- **David Lee Gerlach**, Computer Systems Manager, Unix Support Services.
- **Dushyant Vipradas**, ACS lab student assistant (part-time).
- **Maria Irene Cunha**, ACS lab student assistant (part-time).
- **Valori Berends**, Student Intern, Information Security (part-time).
- **Ariel M. Furman**, Telecommunications Student Assistant (part-time).
- **Natalie M. Rippa**, Administrative Services Student Assistant (part-time).
- **Matt Duncan**, Programmer, EIS Technical Services (half-time).
- **James Wesley Holloway**, Distributed Computing and Imaging Services Student Computer Technician (part-time).

Change:

- CITC Desktop Support has a new name, **Distributed Computing and Imaging Services** and now reports directly to **Tom McElwee**, Director of Enterprise Systems Technical Services. **Brenda Kirk**, is the team leader.

According to Tom McElwee, the name Distributed Computing and Imaging Services more appropriately reflects their major engagements -- Dell desktop support and the Document Imaging Retention Management project -- both critical to UNT. They will also continue to provide server and desktop support.

Tracy Hanson's primary function is now imaging, but she will provide backup services for the team in critical situations.

No longer working in the Computing and Information Technology Center:

- **Becky Sue Parton**, Student Records Data Systems Programmer (AIS),
- **Jisuk Kim**, ACS lab student assistant (part-time).
- **Sri Edupuganti**, ACS lab student assistant (part-time).
- **Thomson Erelli**, ACS lab student assistant (part-time).

Staff Activities

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- **Rachel Burlage**, Student Intern, Information Security (part-time).
- **Megan Kilgore**, Telecommunications Student Assistant (part-time).

Awards, Recognition, Publications, etc.

Dr. Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, Student Computing Services Manager, received an ASCAP Award (\$500 grant) for 2006. The awards are given for composer applicants based on their creative work for the year and their recent performance activities. Hinkle-Turner has been receiving ASCAP grants since 2000.

Soaring Eagles

The following people will be recognized at the President's Staff Lunch on October 24. Their names appeared in the September *Human Resources Newsletter*:

- **Saeid Parivash**, Programmer/Analyst, Enterprise Systems Technical Support.
- **Paula Davis**, Programmer/Analyst, PeopleSoft Application Infrastructure Management, EIS Infrastructure Services.

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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 talks about "Tinn-R: A Convenient Script Editor for R on the Win32 Platform."**
- [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's topic is "News from the Online World." Click on the [Network Connection](#) link above and get the scoop.

- [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 find out about the new CITC Helpdesk webpage.**
- [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 check out "Central Web Support Tutorials, and More."**
- [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. **Short Courses for the fall have been scheduled and will start at the end of the month. Check it out!**
- [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. **There was no meeting of the IRC in August.**

[Staff Activities](#)

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[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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