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Campus Computing News
UNT Participates in National Survey of Technology

Have you noticed the posters around campus inviting students to participate in the Future of Technology Survey? University Information Technology, the Office of Data, Analytics and Institutional Research and CLEAR have entered into a joint project to support UNT's participation in a national survey March 21-April 24 asking undergraduates about technology in their lives. Read all about it.

Also in this Edition

Hours Change in Data Management Services to Support Final Exams
CRAN Issues a User Update
ServiceNow Implementation Team Provides Update and Training
CLEAR Presents: **April 22 Forum on Teaching and Learning**
Ian Parberry receives Distinguished Scientist Honor from Computing Association
American Statistical Association Takes a **Stand Against P-Values**
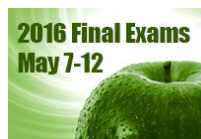Microsoft **Home Use Program** for Employees
News Roundup for **EDUCAUSE**
Trumpet Solo Wafts through Sage Hall
Samsung Video: **High Tech for Hearing Impaired**
Techie Trivia Question: Googling Not Allowed!

Hours Change in DMS to Support Final Exams

The hours of UIT's Data Management Services will be extended to accommodate increased usage during the 2016 final exam period, May 7-12, said **JoAnn Luksich**, manager, DMS. The adjusted hours are as follow.

May 7, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. | May 9-12, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

CRAN Releases User Update

Attention, researchers: Did you know that CRAN recently released a new update of R: from R 3.2.3 to R 3.2.4? CRAN is a network of FTP and web servers around the world that store identical, up-to-date versions of code and documentation for R software. Contact **Jon Starkweather**, R&SS, for more information.

CLEAR Presents Renowned Teaching and Learning Expert

People in the Zone
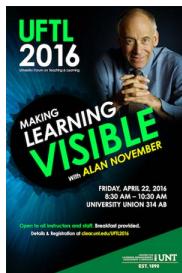
UNT UIT HOTSPOT Benchmarks Online

JoAnn Luksich

Charles Peterson

Chris Stoermer

Make your reservation today to hear **Alan November** at the University Forum on Teaching and Learning April 22, 2016, 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the University Union. November will discuss how to apply emerging tools to make thinking visible in new ways and patterns. Read more about it and register today!

ITSM Provides ServiceNow Implementation Update and Training

By Wil Clark, chief technology officer, ITSM, UNT System IT Shared Services

This month we hit a major milestone in the IT Service Management implementation of ServiceNow. Acorio, our implementation partner, completed its work for ITSM. With user-acceptance testing complete as well, the ITSS team will focus on completing the Service Catalog request items and templates used for incident reporting and change requests. We have a significant amount of work left to prepare for the May 2, 2016 go-live for ITSM. Read more about it.

American Statistical Association Takes a Stand Against P-Values

By Jonathan Starkweather, Research and Statistical Support, Research IT

The American Statistical Association recently convened a committee to evaluate the prospect of issuing a statement regarding the use of p-values. A p-value is a function of the observed sample results – a test statistic – about a statistical model, which measures how extreme the observation is. Read more about it.

Microsoft Home Use Program for Employees

The UNT System has a site license for Microsoft products. Employees are automatically eligible to use Microsoft Office Professional and Microsoft Learning on their home PC or Mac. If you are an employee of the UNT System, UNT, UNT Dallas or UNT Health Science Center, there is no longer a fee throughout your employment. Read more about it.

Techie Trivia Question

Technology has changed the way we play games. Select the correct order in which the following game consoles were created, from oldest to newest. No Googling for the answer!

a. Xbox, PlayStation®, Nintendo Entertainment System

b. Nintendo Entertainment System, PlayStation®, Xbox

c. PlayStation, Nintendo Entertainment System, Xbox

d. Nintendo Entertainment System, Xbox, PlayStation®

Answer

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UNT Participates in National Technology Survey

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University Information Technology, the Office of Data, Analytics and Institutional Research and CLEAR have entered into a joint project to support UNT's participation in a national survey March 21-April 24 asking undergraduates about technology in their lives. Conducted by the Center for Analysis and Research of EDUCAUSE®, the survey will help educators and administrators at UNT to better understand how undergraduate students experience technology at UNT and the ways in which new, better or more technology can impact student success.

Faculty members were asked to encourage their undergraduates to complete the voluntary, anonymous survey. Participating students in the approximately 20-minute survey will be eligible to win a $50 or $100 gift card to Amazon.com. Overseeing the project at UNT are **Patrick Pluscht**, associate vice provost for learning enhancement, CLEAR; **Jason Simon**, associate vice provost, **Ah Ra Cho**, data analyst, and **Russell Ruffu**, data analyst, from ODAIR; and **Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner**, principal investigator, UIT.

This year's study explores technology ownership, use patterns and expectations as they relate to the student experience. The results of this study can be used to engage students better in the learning process, said Hinkle-Turner, director, instructional IT services in the University IT department.

Furthermore, institutions can use the data to improve IT services, increase technology-enabled productivity, prioritize strategic contributions of IT to higher education, plan for technology shifts that impact students, and become more technologically competitive among peer institutions. Next year, UNT plans to participate in the undergraduate study again, said Hinkle-Turner, along with a similar faculty study that has been conducted nationally in the past.

Although UNT did not participate last year, the national results of the 2015 student and faculty studies can be found online. UNT's participation in this year's research study was reviewed and approved by the UNT Institutional Review Board, Hinkle-Turner said, and results are expected later this year.

EDUCAUSE is a nonprofit association and the foremost community of IT leaders and professionals committed to advancing higher education with offices in Louisville, Colo., and Washington, D.C.

CLEAR is UNT's Center for Learning Enhancement, Assessment and Redesign that provides services to assist faculty with the development and delivery of distributed learning at UNT. The center combines technology resources with expert consultation and personnel in course design and redesign, assessment, pedagogy and many other topics to provide faculty with "one-stop" support for creating quality courses for all instructional delivery methods.

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University Information Technology

The University Information Technology Department provides effective computing and information technology services to all members of the university community.

Learn more about us!

UIT

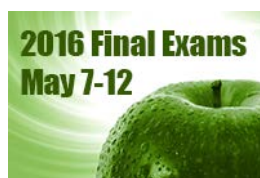IT Services at UNT

Getting Help with IT Services

Benchmarks Online, UIT's online news journal

Campus Computing News

Contact the UIT Help Desk.

2016 Final Exams May 7-12

Support for UNT Final Exams

Data Management Services exam support will be available during extended hours for 2016 final exams.

May 7, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. | May 9-12, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

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ServiceNow Implementation Update, Training

By Wil Clark, chief technology officer, ITSM, UNT System IT Shared Services

This month we hit a major milestone in the IT Service Management implementation of ServiceNow. Acorio, our implementation partner, completed its work for ITSM. With user-acceptance testing complete as well, the ITSS team will focus on completing the Service Catalog request items and templates used for incident reporting and change requests. We have a significant amount of work left to prepare for the May 2, 2016 go-live for ITSM.

Training sessions have been scheduled and reference guides and videos are being completed. The in-person training sessions for ServiceNow are scheduled and set up in the EIS training enrollment system.

Each training session is scheduled at **Discovery Park in Room E264**.

Course Title: **Incident, Request, Knowledge**
Course Code: **UP16IR**

Choose a Session

- April 18, 2-4 p.m.

- April 20, 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 2-4 p.m.

- April 21, 9-11 a.m.

- April 26, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

- April 28, 2-4 p.m.

Course Title: **Change Management**
Course Code: **UP16CM**

Choose a Session

- April 29, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

- April 28, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

To register, complete the following steps for a ServiceNow training session.

1. Go to http://my.untsystem.edu and login with your EUID.

2. Select Training Enrollment from Training & Development.

3. Search by Course Name, Course Number, Location or Date.

4. View the available session and select the session.

5. Follow the prompt to submit the training request.

Meanwhile, the ServiceNow Project and Portfolio Management Suite implementation is in full swing now. The Acorio team is now focused on completing requirements for the PPM suite. We expect development to complete by mid-May and a ServiceNow PPM launch

in early June.

You can stay up to date with the ServiceNow project through the Yammer group at
https://www.yammer.com/untsystem.edu/#/threads/inGroup?type=in_group&feedId=4544021&view=all.

Please contact Wil Clark, should you have any questions about the ServiceNow implementation.

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Save the Date to Attend the Forum on Teaching & Learning

Presented by the Center for Learning Advancement and Redesign

April 22, 2016

Agenda: University Forum on Teaching & Learning

8:30-10:30 a.m. Breakfast will be provided.

University Union, Room 314 AB

Keynote Address: Making Learning Visible by

Alan November, senior partner and founder, November Learning

One of the most powerful and immediate concepts that can empower both educators and students is to apply emerging tools to make thinking visible in new ways and new patterns.

> *"When educators can really see the thinking of their students, they can more accurately provide their students with the support and encouragement they need to be successful." ~ Alan November, renowned leader in educational technology.*

In his keynote address for the 2016 University Forum on Teaching and Learning, November will demonstrate **how technology can help educators make learning truly visible.**

For example, using a tool called Prism, **http://prism.scholarslab.org**, attendees will contribute to a visualization exercise revealing their collective attitudes about using technology in the classroom. Join us for an upbeat and practical event that can open new windows into students' thinking.

Register today!

Register online: *https://clear.unt.edu/uftl-2016-registration*

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UNT Professor of Computer Science Named Distinguished Scientist

Ian Parberry, professor of computer science and engineering, was named a 2015 Distinguished Scientist by the Association for Computing Machinery, the world's leading association of computing professionals.

Distinguished members were drawn from leading academic institutions and corporate and national research labs around the world. Parberry is the author of more than 100 technical publications and has taught game programming to undergraduates since 1993, the year he established UNT's top-ranked Laboratory for Recreational Computing.

The ACM Distinguished Member program, initiated in 2006, recognizes those members with at least 15 years of professional experience who have made significant accomplishments or achieved a significant impact on the computing field.

acm Association for Computing Machinery

Parberry is also an artist known for his ASCII art. In 2008, Max Kazemzadeh and Ian Parberry created and exhibited a digital media art installation Max is a Pushover at the University of North Texas Artspace in Fort Worth, Texas. The UNT Artspace gallery was open from September 2005 through March 2008 and was host to 11 avant-garde exhibitions. Max is a Pushover is a digital fusion of real space with virtual space.

Parberry's current research interests are clustered around game development, ranging from procedural content generation to cognitive assessment of video gameplay using research methods from neuropsychology. He is assisted in his research by an able team of Ph.D. students whose eight alumni include Zoran Obradovic, now the Laura H. Carnell Professor of Data Analytics and full professor in the Department of Computer and Information sciences at Temple University, Timothy Roden, now an associate professor in the Department of Computer Science at Lamar University, and Jonathon Doran, now an assistant professor in the Department of Computer and Information Science at Bradley University.

Parberry's research is enriched by past and present interdisciplinary collaborations that include Dr. Ki Yin Chang, professor in the Department of Merchant Marine at the National Taiwan Ocean University, Max B. Kazemzadeh, associate professor in the Department of Art, Communication and Theater and director of the Art and Media Design Program at Gallaudet University, and Thomas D. Parsons, Fellow of the National Academy of Neuropsychology; associate professor in the Department of Psychology and director of UNT's Clinical Neuropsychology and Simulation Laboratory.

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<script>
(function(i,s,o,g,r,a,m){i['GoogleAnalyticsObject']=r;i[r]=i[r]||function(){
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m=s.getElementsByTagName(o)[0];a.async=1;a.src=g;m.parentNode.insertBefore(a,m)
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ga('send', 'pageview');

</script>
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American Statistical Association Takes Position Against P-Values

By Jonathan Starkweather, Research and Statistical Support, Research IT

Recently, the American Statistical Association (ASA) convened a committee to evaluate the prospect of issuing a statement regarding the ASA's position on the use of p-values. Essentially, the ASA has finally acknowledged the litany of problems associated with the *continued* use of p-values among practicing researchers. The ASA Statement was accepted by the ASA Executive Committee on Jan. 29, 2016. The statement appears in the ASA's journal *The American Statistician* (AmStat). However, it is available in final draft form, as of March 7, 2016 online at the AmStat website.

http://amstat.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00031305.2016.1154108

The issuance and publication of the ASA's Statement should be of the utmost importance to practicing researchers.

The correct citation of the statement in AmStat is: Ronald L. Wasserstein & Nicole A. Lazar (2016): The ASA's statement on p-values: context, process, and purpose, The American Statistician, DOI: 10.1080/00031305.2016.1154108

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Microsoft© Home Use Program for UNT Employees

By Katrina Carpenter, UIT Information Technology User Services

Installing Microsoft© Office for employees is described below.

1. Log in to https://webmail.unt.edu/

2. At the top of your screen, on the right-hand side, **click the gear icon** near your photo and find **My app settings**, select Office 365.
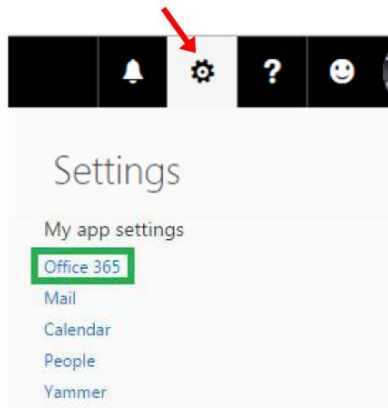
3. Select the word **software**.
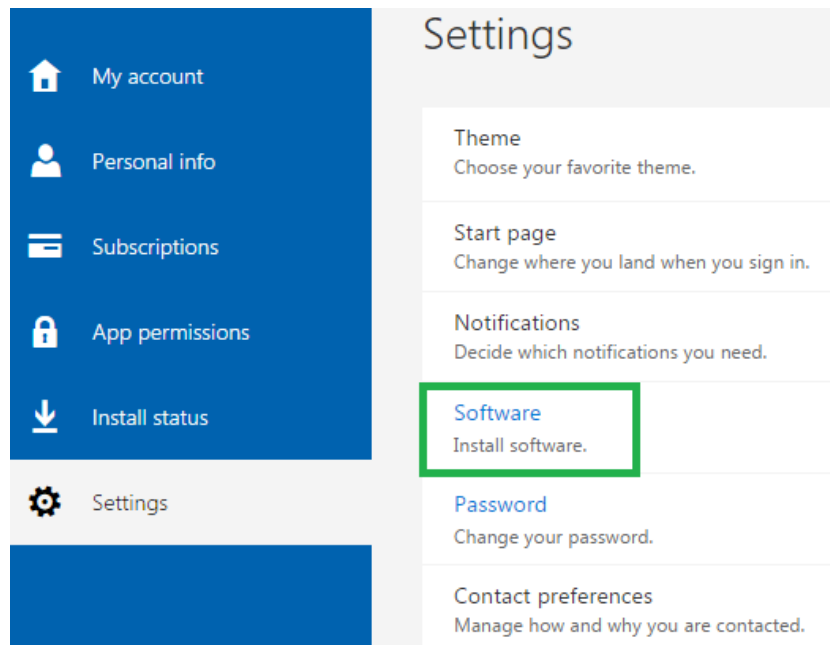
4. Select your preferred language and version.

Note: It is best to **go with the recommended version** of Office. For instance, Windows users may be using a 64-bit operating system, but most applications and plugins that integrate with Microsoft Office will be built for the 32-bit version of office. An alternative version may be selected, however, only advanced users should venture into this territory.
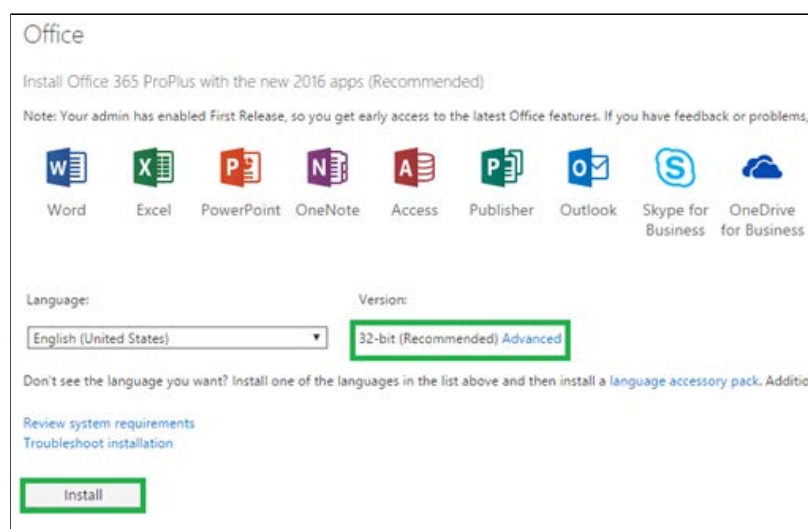
5. Click on the word **Install** to download the installer for your Office application.

6. Open the downloaded file to start the installation. During the installation process, you will see the screen below.
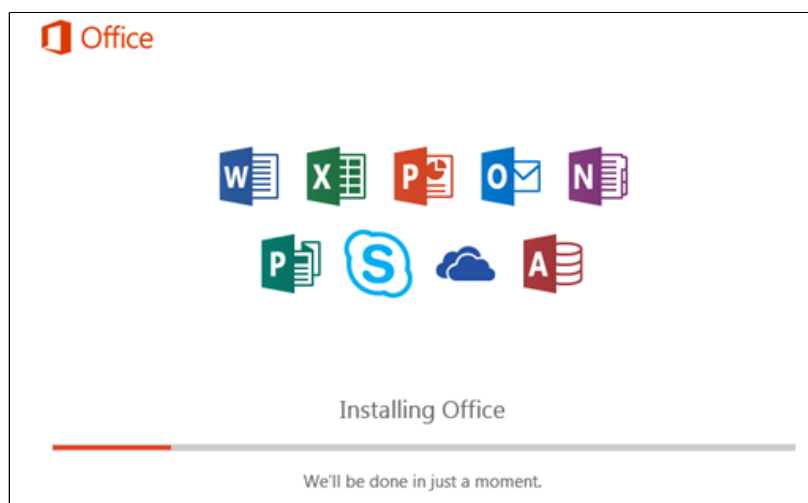
Note: Do not go offline or restart your computer during this process while you see this screen; it is actively installing the software.

7. Click **Sign in** and you'll be prompted for a username, which is your email address. Enter your email address, usually in the form of First.Last@unt.edu, then click the word **Next**.
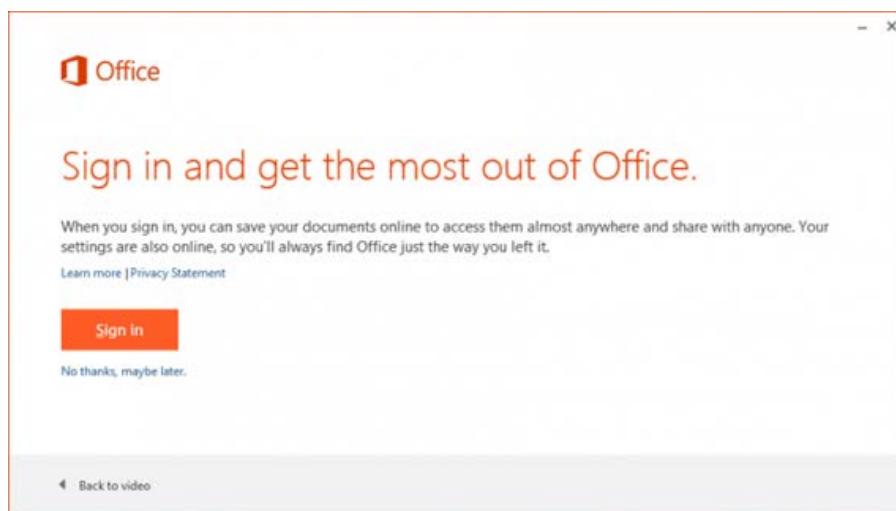
8. Verify which type of account you are using to sign in. Since this is a service through UNT, select **Organizational Account**.
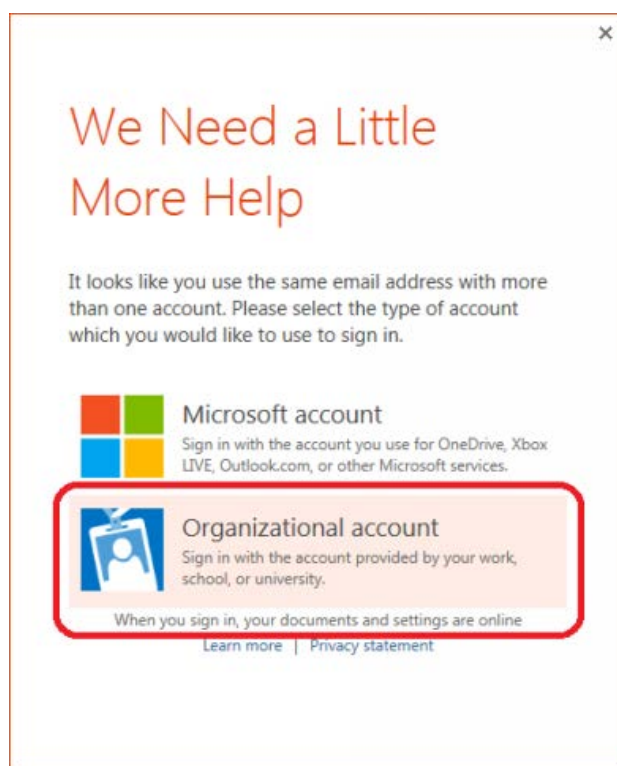
At this point, the installer will offer to give you a walk-through tour of Office 365, or you may skip to the end where you will be presented with an indication of the status of your Office installation. Once you see the screen below, the process is complete!

Please contact the UIT Help Desk, should you have any questions.

Call: 940-565-2324 | **Online:** UIT Help Desk   **Email:** helpdesk@unt.edu | **Come by:** Sage Hall, Room 130

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EDUCAUSE Roundup

EDUCAUSE Review Publisher Names New Column Editors

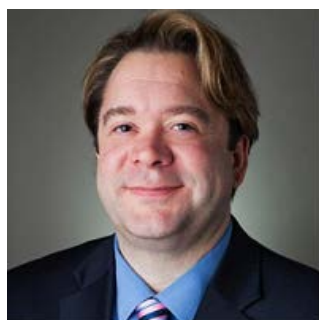D. Teddy Diggs, publisher/editor of EDUCAUSE Review, the association's award-winning magazine for the higher education IT community, has named three new column editors for one-year appointments beginning in January 2016. These community leaders bring their experience and expertise to add original ideas, voices, and opinions to *EDUCAUSE Review*.

E-Content
Robert H. McDonald
Associate Dean for Library Technologies and Deputy Director of the Data to Insight Center, Pervasive Technology Institute Indiana University

New Horizons
Shelli Fowler
Associate Dean, University College Virginia Commonwealth University

Viewpoints
Jack Suess
Vice President of Information Technology and CIO
University of Maryland Baltimore County

More About EDUCAUSE Review

EDUCAUSE Review takes a broad look at current developments and trends in information technology, how they may affect the college/university as an institution, and what these mean for higher education and society. In addition to EDUCAUSE members, the magazine's audience consists of presidents and chancellors, senior academic and administrative leaders, non-IT staff, faculty in all disciplines, librarians, and corporate leaders – for a print circulation of 22,000. The online version of the magazine comprises the print issue as well as peer-reviewed articles, practical advice and guidance, and multimedia about managing and using information resources in higher education.

New EDUCAUSE Constituent Group

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Allies, LGBTQIA, constituent group provides a forum for participants to discuss IT career issues of interest to these communities and their allies who are working in higher education in information technology. It provides valuable networking opportunities and allows for coalition-building and networking toward the common interest of furthering work environments that recognize and embrace inclusion of LGBTQI people as normative.This group meets at the EDUCAUSE annual conference and uses the electronic discussion list to discuss issues throughout the year. Participants are encouraged to join related EDUCAUSE constituent groups such as Diversity in IT and Women in IT.

EDUCAUSE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2016
October 25-28, 2016 • Anaheim, CA

Plan Ahead for the Fall Conference

EDUCAUSE Conference: The 2016 EDUCAUSE annual conference is scheduled Oct. 25-28 in Anaheim, Calif., with registration opening in June.

About EDUCAUSE

EDUCAUSE is a nonprofit association and the foremost community of IT leaders and professionals committed to advancing higher education. EDUCAUSE programs and services are focused on analysis, advocacy, community building, professional development, and knowledge creation because IT plays a transformative role in higher education. EDUCAUSE supports those who lead, manage, and use information technology through a comprehensive range of resources and activities. For more information, visit www.educause.edu.

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Home » issues » 2016-04 » Lone Trumpet Concert at Sage Hall

Lone Trumpet Concert at Sage Hall

March 10, 2015 – Being a good stretch of the legs away from the Music Building makes a solo concert a rare occurrence in the Sage Hall vicinity. Hearing a street musician around this part of campus is a rare treat, so Benchmarks went out in pursuit of a different beat.

With IT techs, staff and administrators opening office windows to let the music and fresh air pour into our 1961 building, listeners were provided jazz notes on a rainy day just before the lunch hour.

After listening to his trumpet, it was a pleasure to meet **Iver Sneva** and take the opportunity to get to know one of the many amazing students we see each day.

From White Bear Lake, Minn., Sneva said he is finishing his fifth year at UNT and is classified as a senior or "maybe a super senior," he said. Not only majoring in music, but he also has a double major in physics.

Of course, the Physics Building is Sage Hall's neighbor to the north.

"I had just finished my physics midterm and had to warm up for my performance today in the Syndicate with the 5 O'Clock Lab Band," Sneva said. The Music Building and practice rooms were a little far away, so I decided just to warm up and play. As for what I was playing, I was messing around on a standard blues to get some ideas of what to play if I had to solo during my performance."

Sneva's aim for graduation is spring of 2018 with a graduate degree in physics, he said. "Once I graduate, I hope to continue my education in physics studying anything from theoretical, quantum, or astrophysics." Eventually, he said, he would like to be in an area of research somewhere or at a university.

Sneva's favorite app these days is Pocket Points, he said; one he has started using only recently. Pocket Points gives users rewards for not using their phones during class. Users simply open the app on campus, lock their phone and start gaining points. Points are then used at local and online businesses for student discounts, coupons or gifts.

"The software I like to use somewhat a lot is Audacity®," he said, a free, open source, cross-platform software for recording and editing sounds. "This software enables me to practice different aspects of music in ways that are impossible for me to do with any other musical tool at my disposal. Other than this, I don't use a whole lot of software or other technology. At least not yet. I can definitely see the need to learn different software programs in the near future when I further myself in the fields of physics."

As for Mac versus PC, Sneva said he prefers doing his everyday work on a PC. However, he said he has used both and "must say that I do prefer doing anything music related on a Mac. Their software and operating system makes it much easier to work with than it would on a PC."

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Techie Trivia

Technology has changed the way we play games. Select the correct order in which the following game consoles were created, from oldest to newest. No Googling for the answer!

a. Xbox, PlayStation®, Nintendo Entertainment System

b. Nintendo Entertainment System, PlayStation®, Xbox

c. PlayStation, Nintendo Entertainment System, Xbox

d. Nintendo Entertainment System, Xbox, PlayStation®

Scroll down

Did you choose B? The Nintendo Entertainment System was first released in 1985, Sony's PlayStation® launched in 1995, and Microsoft's® Xbox debuted in 2001.

a. Xbox, PlayStation®, Nintendo Entertainment System

b. Nintendo Entertainment System, PlayStation®, Xbox

c. PlayStation, Nintendo Entertainment System, Xbox

d. Nintendo Entertainment System, Xbox, PlayStation®

Ready for another technology question?

True or False: It is possible for a doctor to diagnose a patient virtually (i.e., through a live video consultation).

a. True

b. False

Send in your techie trivia question to try to stump readers in the next Benchmarks edition. And, yes, it is true. MDLIVE, founded in 2009, is a provider of online health services that is able to consult with patients through Virtual Medical Office software. MDLIVE happens to be owned in part by UNT alumnus Phil McGraw, class of 1976, M.A., and 1979, Ph.D.
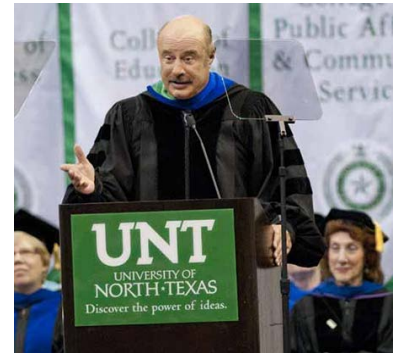
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UIT Data Management Services

Data Management Exam Services will be available extended hours for 2016 final exams.

May 7, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. | May 9-12, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

_____

Data management services include automated examination grading, research support, optical-scan survey forms and processing of faculty course evaluations.

For exams, course evaluations, survey collection — to be keyed or scanned — and optical scan form requests, please complete the following steps.

1. Submit an UNT System Service Request,

2. **Print** a copy of your IT Service Request ticket, and

3. Take your printed, hard copy of the IT Service Request ticket to Sage Hall, Room 336, with your project for processing.

The Data Management Services team is located in the Sage Hall, Room 336, or you may call us at 940-565-3887, if you have any questions.

To get started: Log in to submit a UNT System Service Request

1. Exam Grading and Analysis

Education Examination Form, formerly called Dell Printer Station Form · Sample View

The forms for the Education Exam are FREE. You may pick up the forms in batches of 100 in the Data Management Services office, Sage Hall, Room 336.

There is one KEY per batch of 100. NOTE: The *KEY is denoted by the barcode at the bottom right of the page. Additional keys are available by request.

View Report Sample: ExamReportSample.pdf

- **Class Frequency Distribution Report:** Indicates the score percentage in graph and numeric form.

- **Item Analysis Graph Report:** Indicates the correct answer, the answer selected, and the response percentage for each item.

- **Test Statistics Report:** Indicates score data, statistics, percentiles, confidence intervals, and overall test reliability.

- **Test Item Statistics Report:** Indicates each question graded, number correct or incorrect, as well as blanks (no responses) and item reliability.

- **Student Grade Report:** Indicates each student's total score, question responses, missed questions and correct answer for that item.

*KEY: This report also produces a copy of the student's actual scanned exam, which can be saved and stored digitally.

Scantron Form #106173 · Sample Form · View

To purchase forms, visit the Scantron store online: https://store.scantron.com. Enter 106173 in the search field.

- **Grade Exams:** Marks incorrect responses with correct answer or with an 'x'. Provides total number items correct and total percentage correct.

- **Frequency Distribution Analysis:** Indicates the number and/or percentage of students' score. Provides number of students' scanned, average number and/or percent correct.

- **General Test Item Analysis:** Indicates the number and/or percentage of incorrect responses by item. Provides number of students scanned, and average number and/or percent correct.

- **Detailed Test Item Analysis:** Indicates the number and/or percentage of students selecting each response. Provides number of students scanned, and average number and/or percent correct.

- **Item Analysis:** Provides analysis indicating the Total Score Correct, Item Statistics, Scale Statistics, and Score Distribution Table.

Scantron Form #4521 • View **Sample Form**

To purchase forms, visit the online Scantron store: https://store.scantron.com (Enter 4521 in search field)

- **Grade Exams:** Provides the total items correct.

- **Item Analysis:** Provides analysis indicating the Total Score Correct, Item Statistics, Scale Statistics, and Score Distribution Table.

Custom UNT Exam Form #293907 View **Sample Form**

The customized form has the ability to collect UNT EUIDs, EmplIDs, as well as gender, class, age and raw data entered onto the form. Output data includes all form data and total score of correct answers in a Microsoft Excel format.

Forms are available at the UNT Barnes and Noble bookstore in the University Union, or directly from the Scantron corporation.

UNT Bookstore Barnes & Noble: The UNT campus bookstore in the University Union sells single sheets for 75¢ each. To order bulk quantities from the bookstore, send an email to Jennifer Madison.

NOTE: UNT departments receive a 20 percent discount.

Scantron Corporation: Those wishing to order supplies directly from Scantron must do so via email to Diane Martin at Scantron, making sure to include the custom form number.

1,999 Sheets **(or fewer)** = $680.38.

More than 2000 sheets, fees decrease.

Contact Diane Martin for more information.

Diane Martin

Scantron Corp.

3975 Continental Drive

Columbia, PA 17512

Telephone: 1-800-735-2566 x1323 | Fax: 717-684-1322

2. Research Projects — Data Collection

The following services are provided.

- **Data Collection:** Manual keying of instrument, numeric and limited text. Output to Microsoft Excel file or SPSS format.

- **Optical Scanning:** Scanning and verification of Teleform designed forms. Output to Microsoft Excel file or SPSS format.

3. Custom Design for Optical Scan Survey Form

Surveys forms are custom-designed using Hewlitt Packard's Teleform software. Send an email of your request for a custom-designed form – with a draft of your form – to JoAnn Luksich, manager, data management services, or bring it to the UIT Data Management Services Office, Sage Hall, Room 336. A custom-designed form from your draft will be designed to be optically scanned to collect data.

4. Faculty Evaluation Processing

Scan, edit and process UNT departmental faculty evaluations. The following standardized reports are available.

Department Overall | By Instructor-Course-Section | By Instructor

A Microsoft Excel data file will be provided to run any customized reports.

Faculty   Evaluation   Processing   Tips

Make sure you have the latest information when you prepare departmental evaluations for processing by the office of Data Management. These tips will help to ensure your evaluations are processed in a timely manner.

1. Use **ONLY** Scantron #4521 for evaluations.

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

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

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

NOTE: The **FIRST** Scantron form of each group <u>must</u> have the following information bubbled into the ID fields a through j.

- Instructor number (Fields a-c)

- Course number (Fields d-g) and

- Section number (Fields h-j)

The remaining scantrons of that group do not need to be coded.

Please address your questions about content on this page to **JoAnn Luksich,** data manager, 940-369-7416.

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Questions? Contact the Benchmarks Online editor, by email or telephone, 940-565-4068.

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How Smart is your Phone?

It has been hard to miss the ongoing conflict between Apple and the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation over the FBI's request that Apple unlock an iPhone that belonged to a suspect in a mass shooting in California. (In case you missed this controversy, you might also want to notice that Donald Trump is currently the leading candidate for the Republican nomination for president.) The Apple iPhone, like many other currently-produced smart devices, features data encryption to prevent unauthorized access to data stored on the device. Likewise, most Internet transactions use encryption to assure that information cannot be intercepted and read while in transit between a smartphone and a server or another destination device (like your friend's or family member's phone.) Law enforcement agencies do have the right to obtain (and, in fact, now require) a warrant to search a smartphone, but in the Apple case, encryption and other security features prevented the FBI from accessing the information on the phone.

To summarize, the FBI asked Apple to overcome the security features of the iPhone in question. Apple responded that such a task was not possible and that undermining the security would put their customer's information at risk from cybercriminals. The FBI sued Apple to compel them to break the security. Apple responded that even if they could unlock the phone, they wouldn't, since the government was overreaching in its application of existing law to compel Apple's action. A New York judge ruled against the FBI when they tried to apply the same law in a Brooklyn court to compel access to another phone used in an alleged criminal act. So, the FBI hired some hackers to tell them how to break into the phone in the California case. It would appear that this conflict has been sidestepped for now, but since encryption technologies are being improved and used more widely, it's likely that we'll continue to see debate around this issue.

What's all this fuss...

Why should there be so much of a fuss over smartphones? As I've pointed out previously, "smartphones can know our location, contact information, text messages, pictures, friends, eating preferences, favorite games and favorite web sites. In addition, phones can know what music we like, frequent travel destinations, favorite places to shop, and where we do our banking." It's almost as if the smartphone is an extension of our brain. The inventor Ray Kurzweil in his book *The Singularity Is Near*, suggests that "technological advances will irreversibly transform people as they augment their minds and bodies with genetic alterations, nanotechnology and artificial intelligence." It could be that our smartphones are just the start of such a process. If that sounds silly, just ask yourself how many phone numbers you have memorized since you've been able to ask Siri to phone people by name.

At the heart of this smartphone controversy lies the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Perhaps you remember the part that says, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated." But, this concept has also been applied in a number of cases regarding intrusion into people's bodies. One of these cases is Winston vs. Lee, in which a defendant in an armed robbery case argued successfully that he should not be compelled to undergo surgery to remove a bullet that might tie him to involvement in the crime. The court ruled that the State of Virginia "failed to demonstrate that it would be 'reasonable' under the terms of the Fourth Amendment to search for evidence of this crime by means of the contemplated surgery."

Perhaps breaking into a smartphone is not currently comparable to surgery, but who is to say that some day it might be? Today's smartphones that fit in our pocket are equivalent to a 1990s supercomputer that filled a large data center. In another 25 years, our smartphones might be on a small chip that we inject under our skin and control with our thought processes —although, upgrades might even be more painful than they are today. In such a case, is a search an unreasonable intrusion? Or would such a melding of human and technology allow us to invoke the Fifth Amendment right against self incrimination?

In an ideal world...

Wanting a smartphone that is secure against criminals would seem as logical as wanting a house with doors that have locks. In an ideal world, you would hope that neither would be necessary, yet the reality of today's technology risks tells us a different story. But, in California and New York, legislation is being considered that would ban the sale of smartphones with full disk encryption. This seems equivalent to issuing master keys for everyone's house to law enforcement. They will argue that a warrant will be required to take advantage of the access, but how do you ensure that abuse of that access will not occur, either by law enforcement or by those who would steal the key.

If you own a smartphone then perhaps you should pay attention to the debates about encryption and its implications for security and privacy. Technology can be a wonderful extension to human capabilities (we are the ultimate tool builders). But if compromises to the technology place our security and privacy at risk, how likely are we to use such a tool? Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr. reminded us in the Winston vs. Lee decision, "the Fourth Amendment's command that searches be 'reasonable' requires that, when the State seeks to intrude upon an area in which our society recognizes a significantly heightened privacy interest, a more substantial justification is required to make the search 'reasonable.'"

How heightened is your privacy interest?

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Help Desk Staff Members

Meet four more staff members of the UIT Help Desk!

In the February edition of Benchmarks, you met **other staff members too**! Get to know the techs who take calls, post answers to online questions and help walk-in clients in search of information technology panacea.

Crystal Anozie, rehabilitative studies with a minor in biology

"My laptop is pretty much my life, so I have always been a big fan of technology, but the reason I started to get more interested in knowing more about it is because of my brother," Anozie said. "He is a very tech savvy person, and just watching him work with a computer and seeing all of the things he learns from it, made me want to know more." Anozie is from Houston, Texas.
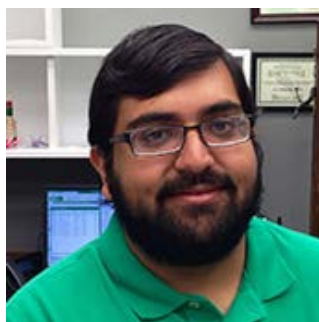
Sharukh Mithani, manager, UIT Help Desk, 2016 UNT graduate in business computer information systems

From Bedford, Texas, Sharukh Mithani said he became interested in technology because of his father. "One day, when I was about nine, he surprised me with a brand new computer, Mithani said. "He encouraged me to learn and explore, because he knew that it would help me in my future endeavors. Ever since then, I've been hooked."

Callan Weinberg, UNT computer science major

"Video games kept me entertained when I was younger, so I was always intrigued with how they worked," said Weinberg. A native of The Woodlands, Texas, Weinberg was a senior in high school, when he took an advanced placement computer science class. He said he has been studying computer science ever since.

Sam Wiggins, art major

"My major is focused on drawing and painting," Wiggins said. Originally from McKinney, Texas, Wiggins' interest in technology "comes from growing up with a desire to understand the larger parts of the world around me and technology just keeps becoming a bigger part."

Please contact the UIT Help Desk with your questions about connectivity, access or other information technology matters.

Call: 940-565-2324 | **Online:** UIT Help Desk **Email:** helpdesk@unt.edu **Come by:** Sage Hall, Room 130

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Plotting Geographical Data: A Brief Introduction

By Jon Starkweather, Ph.D., research and statistical support services consultant

This month's article reviews some of the ways which a data analyst can plot geographical data in **R** using a two very handy packages. The two packages used here are 'ggmap' (Kahle & Wickham, 2013) and 'ggplot2' (Wickham, 2009). The package 'ggmap' requires the 'ggplot2' package. There are a variety of functions for using these two packages to plot geographical data using several types of maps. The examples below use topographical, i.e. terrain, maps produced by Google™. The examples below also utilize data from Wikipedia™. The data used in the examples below contains the highest 250 mountain peaks in the United States (Wikipedia, 2016).

First, import the data, which is available as a comma separated values (.csv) file on the R&SS server, and take a look at what is included.

Next, select only the mountain peaks contained in the continental United States (i.e. exclude Alaska & Hawaii).

Next, load the libraries 'ggmap', which requires 'ggplot2'.

```
R Console (64-bit)
File  Edit  Misc  Packages  Windows  Help

> library(ggmap)
Loading required package: ggplot2
Google Maps API Terms of Service: http://developers.google.com/maps/terms.
Please cite ggmap if you use it: see citation('ggmap') for details.
>
```

Next, get and plot the initial map. It is centered near Salt Lake City, UT. Keep in mind, the 'zoom' argument refers to: "…an integer from 3 (continent) to 21 (building), default value 10 (city)" (Kahle & Wickham, 2013). We use the longitude (x-axis) and latitude (y-axis) to locate the mountain peaks. Notice we are also using the size of the points to represent the elevation of the mountain peaks.

```
R Console (64-bit)
File  Edit  Misc  Packages  Windows  Help

> gterrain <- get_googlemap(center = c(lon = -113, lat = 41), zoom = 5,
+                           maptype = "terrain")
Map from URL : http://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/staticmap?center=41,-113&zoom=5&size=640x640&sc$
> ggmap(gterrain) +
+   geom_point(aes(x = Longitude, y = Latitude, size = Elevation_ft),
+              data = df.2, colour = "red", alpha = .5)
>
```
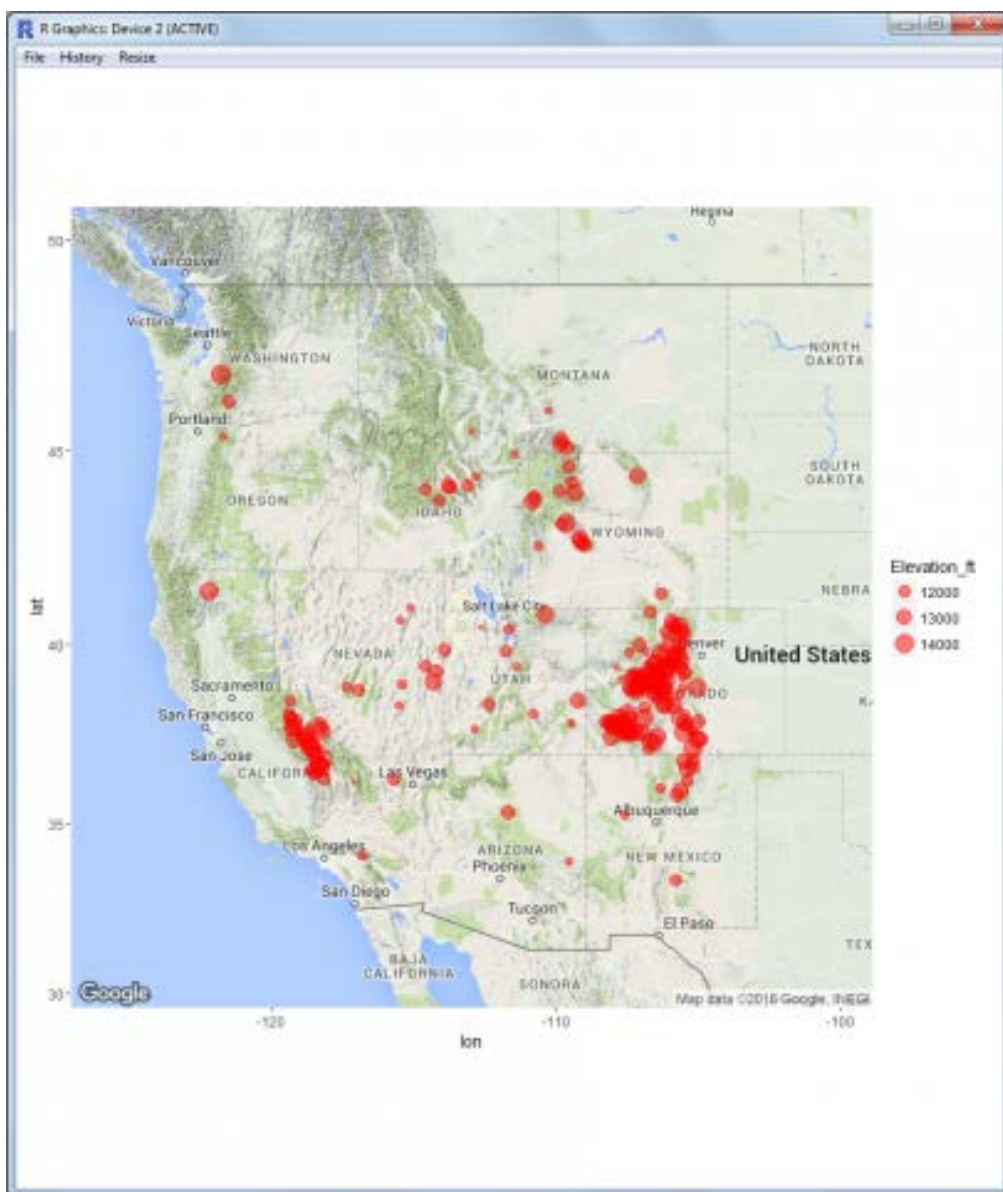

Unfortunately, the larger points are simply obscuring the smaller ones. So, we need to make the points hollow (rather than solid). This is due to two things, first, the points are solid and second, the 'alpha' sets the transparency. If we lower the transparency further, the points would disappear into the map. So, we increase the transparency, BUT, use hollow points rather than solid (pch = 1).

```
R R Console (64-bit)                                          [_][□][X]
File  Edit  Misc  Packages  Windows  Help
> ggmap(gterrain) +
+   geom_point(aes(x = Longitude, y = Latitude, size = Elevation_ft),
+              data = df.2, colour = "red", alpha = .8, pch = 1)
> |
```

```
R R Graphics: Device 2 (ACTIVE)                              [_][□][X]
File  History  Resize
```
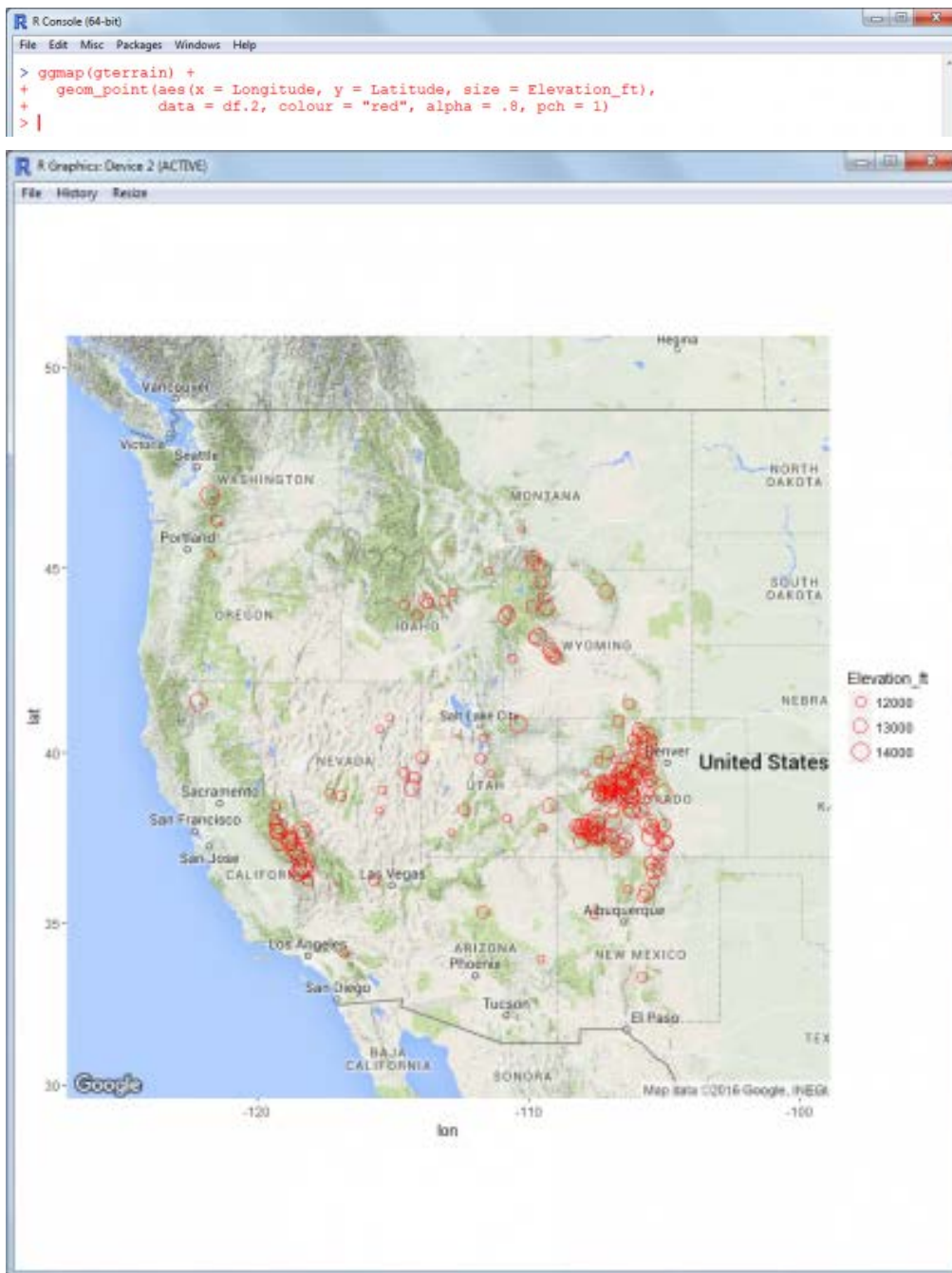

We also can change the points to any of the 25 available or simply use a particular character by simply inserting the character we want inside quotation marks for the 'pch' argument.

```
R R Console (64-bit)                                          [_][□][X]
File  Edit  Misc  Packages  Windows  Help
> ggmap(gterrain) +
+   geom_point(aes(x = Longitude, y = Latitude, size = Elevation_ft),
+              data = df.2, colour = "red", alpha = .8, pch = "m")
> |
```
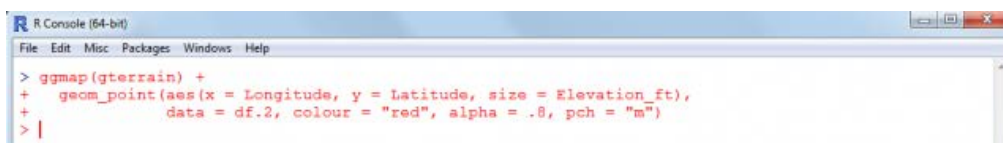
What if we had a grouping variable we wanted to include in the plot? For example, we can create two (arbitrary) groups based on prominence by dividing the peaks with prominence greater than or equal to 6,000 feet, or fewer than 6,000 feet.

```
> nrow(df.2)
[1] 194
> hi <- which(df.2[,6] >= 6000); length(hi)
[1] 18
> lo <- which(df.2[,6] < 6000); length(lo)
[1] 176
>
```

We are also going to need a better indicator of elevation – in order to better **differentiate** between the mountains. So, we create a sequential vector which runs between 8 and 1 with an equal number of sequential values as the number of mountains.
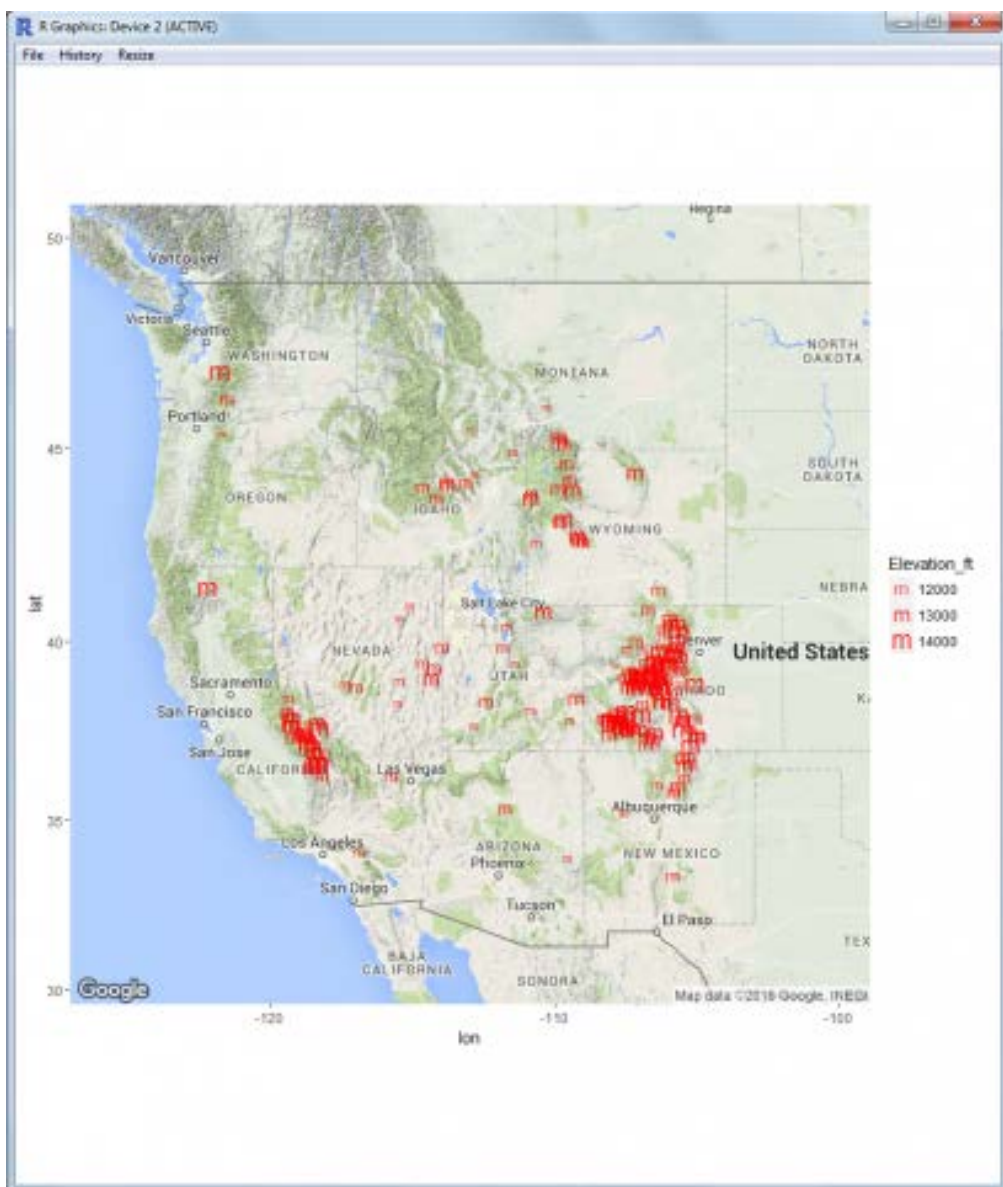
```
> elev.size <- seq(8, 1, length.out = nrow(df.2))
> summary(elev.size)
   Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
   1.00    2.75    4.50    4.50    6.25    8.00
>
```

Next, we can combine the two groups into one map with red (reddish) points represent the peaks greater than or equal to 13000 feet and blue (blueish) points represent peaks less than 13000 feet. We need to tune the legend using the 'scale_size_area' function since we are using a different vector to represent the elevations. Notice in the plot below, we also changed the points to the character "A" by passing "A" to the 'pch' argument.

```
R Console (64-bit)
File  Edit  Misc  Packages  Windows  Help
> ggmap(gterrain, extent = "device", legend = "topright") +
+     geom_point(aes(x = Longitude, y = Latitude, size = elev.size[hi]),
+               data = df.2[hi,], colour = "red", alpha = .9, pch = "A",
+               show.legend = TRUE) +
+     scale_size_area(breaks = c(2,4,6,8), labels = c(11000,12000,13000,14000),
+               name = "Size = Elevation & Color = Prominence") +
+     geom_point(aes(x = Longitude, y = Latitude, size = elev.size[lo]),
+               data = df.2[lo,], colour = "blue", alpha = .6, pch = "A",
+               show.legend = TRUE)
> |
```
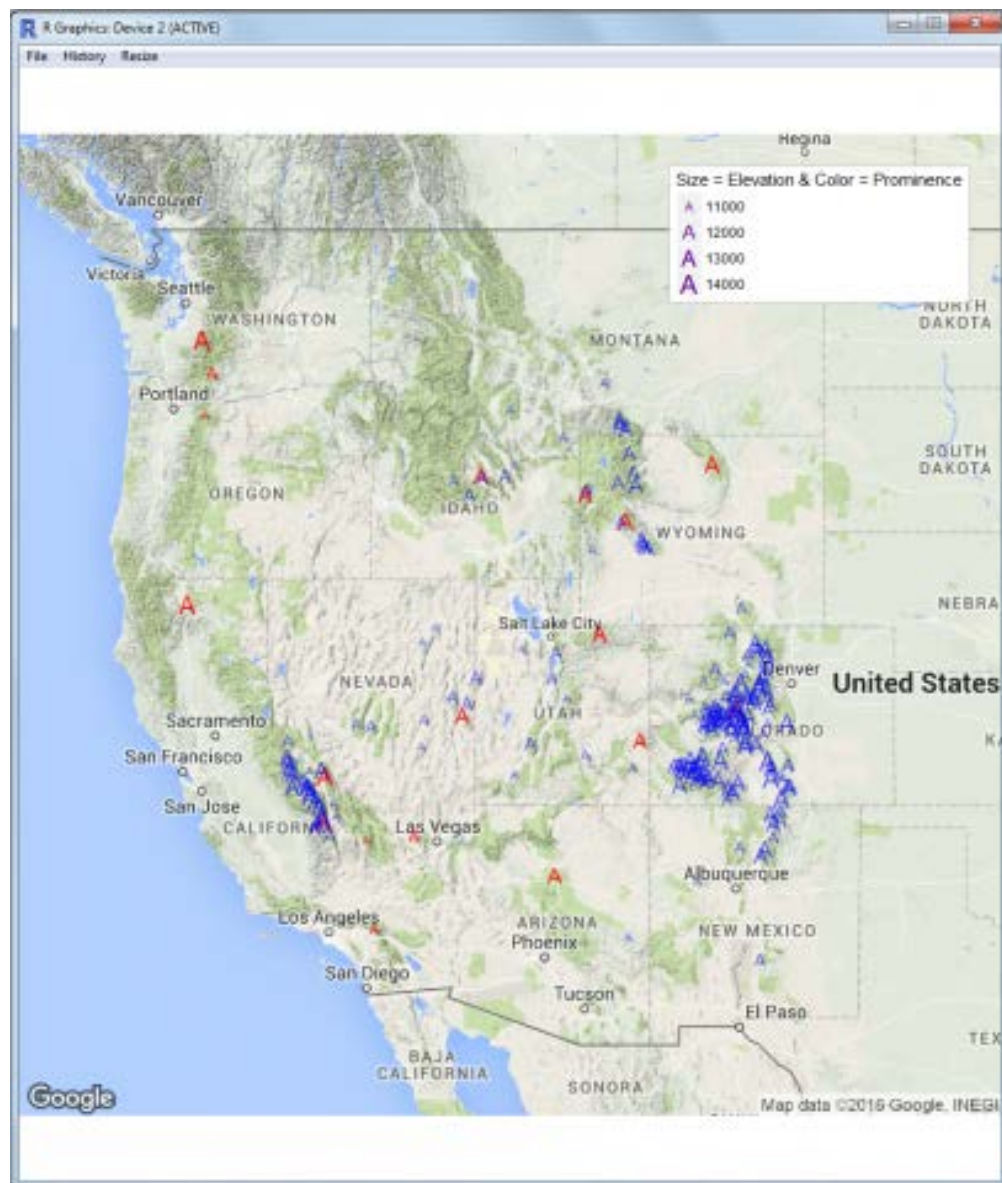

So, there we have a gentle introduction to the production of plots for representing geographical or geospatial data. There are other packages which can produce similar plots, the 'ggmap' and 'ggplot2' packages were used here simply because the author has an interest in hiking mountains and Google™ allows access to topographical (i.e. terrain) maps. As previous articles of Research Matters have stated, graphing data is as important as computation. A version of the R script used in this article can be found on the R&SS Do-It-Yourself Introduction to R in the Module 12 section (specifically, here).

Until next time; be wary of the *mis-measure* of human attributes...[1]

References / Resources

Kahle, D. & Wickham, H. (2013). ggmap: Spatial Visualization with ggplot2. *The R Journal, 5*(1), 144-161. URL http://journal.r-project.org/archive/2013-1/kahle-wickham.pdf

Wickham, H. (2009). *ggplot2: Elegant Graphics for Data Analysis.* New York: Springer-Verlag.

Wikipedia. (2016). "List of the highest major summits of the United States." Accessed April 7, 2016 at:
 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_the_highest_major_summits_of_the_United_States

[1] A perhaps too subtle nod to a book I recently read and recommend: *The Mismeasure of Man.*

Gould, S. J. (1996). *The Mismeasure of Man (Revised & Expanded).* New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

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Staff Activities, April 2016

New Staff

Sharukh Mithani – Manager, Help Desk • Read more about the Help Desk staff in this issue.

Katrina Carpenter – Assistant Manager, Help Desk

Clarissa Hutkowski – Administrative Specialist, Data Management Services

Staff Changes

Yonathan Khoe – changed positions from Manager, Adaptive Computer Lab, ITUS, to IT Specialist IV, CTDS

Ray Banks – promoted to IT Manager II

Richard Sanzone – promoted to Director, IT User Services in January 2016

Clarissa Hutkowski, administrative specialist,
Data Management Services, IITS

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Benchmarks Online connects UNT community members to computing and information technology news, information, services and resources. The online journal is published twice each semester by the UNT University Information Technology Department in association with campuswide contributors and other sources. Send an email to the editor with your contribution or request for event coverage and photographic support.

Request for Contributions	Contributions Due	Publication Date
May 16, 2016	June 6, 5 p.m.	June 15, 2106
July 15	Aug. 5, 5 p.m.	Aug. 15
Sept. 15	Oct. 5, 5 p.m.	Oct. 15
Nov. 15	Dec. 5, 5 p.m.	Dec. 15
Jan. 15, 2017	Feb. 5, 5 p.m.	Feb. 15, 2017
March 15	April 5, 5 p.m.	April 15
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Campus Computing News

On the Move – UIT Reorganizes to Better Align its Mission, Services
By Philip Baczewski, senior director, University Information Technology

In September of 2015, University Information Technology underwent a reorganization to realign the reporting of the service units that make up the division. As seen on our most recent organizational chart, UIT now has four areas, each reporting to a director-level position. Read more about the reorganization, areas and their functions.

IITS Update

Instructional Information Technology Adds Services
By Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, director, Instructional Information Technology Services

Since fall 2015, the Instructional Information Technology Services area added significantly to its services to better serve students and faculty. The division is the part of UIT that is most associated with direct support of teaching and learning. Read more about the excellent work of the team members working on classroom testing, desktop and data management services.

From the Editor

Happy Leap Year, People in the Zone – *and Candy!*

Today is noted as the 46th day on the Julian Calendar of a leap year and – drumroll, please – National Gumdrop Day. As you ponder what you will do with your extra day this year and munch on brightly colored, sugar-coated gelatin- or pectin-based sweets, please enjoy the February 2016 edition of

People in the Zone

HOTSPOT
Benchmarks Online

Anthony "Tony" Moreno, IT specialist, Administrative Information Technology Services Department, may be one of several IT specialists assigned to handle your service request when you turn to IT Shared Services for assistance. Read more about Tony and AITS.

Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, director, instructional computing services, delivered the keynote address to open the New Expressions: Women in Music Technology symposium Feb. 5, 2016 at the Claire Trevor School of the Arts, University of California, Irvine. Read more about Elizabeth and her trip to California.

Benchmarks online.

What? No gumdrops? See below, and read more inside about the new Hotspot column and people in the zone!

Cybersecurity Article Featured in The North Texan

Snag a copy of The North Texan winter edition online and read the Cybersecurity article written by **Adrienne Nettles**, UNT communications specialist and editor of UNT Insider. This article bears repeating and sharing.

UIT's New Social Media Presence

Sweet: Here is the candy part! The UIT Department has new pages on social media! You are invited to be among our first followers, and for being so good as to follow us online, you can earn a small, sugary reward. Here's the deal: the first 10 Benchmarks Online readers who visit our **Facebook** page and make a comment that includes **#unt_uit**, will earn a bag of gumdrops delivered to any UNT main campus office no later than Feb. 20! Ten tweeters also can earn gumdrops by tagging us with **#unt_uit** on **Twitter**! Be sure to include in your post an IT fact, bit of trivia or something you read in Benchmarks! *Let's spread that sugar around!*

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Brian Kucharski, Web developer, URCM, makes a trip every Wednesday from the University Services Building north of Fouts Field over to the Business Leadership Building to conduct office hours for 90 minutes with his colleage Jacob King. Read more about Brian and Jacob.

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Hotspot, People in the Zone – April 2016

JoAnn Luksich

JoAnn Luksich, manager, data management services, is responsible for processing student exam Scantrons® and data collected by faculty and staff for research and institutional purposes. Luksich was honored in March with the UNT 2016 Student Success Award as someone who has gone above and beyond the normal job requirements to contribute to the success of a UNT student or group of students.

While typically not a hands-on technical position, Luksich has taken on skilled technical work in the service of student success. The Data Management Services Office reports to Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner, director, instructional information technology services

In collaboration with faculty and departmental staff members on campus, Luksich has developed instruments that collect data beyond a student's test answers to assist instructors in determining areas in need of improvement, said Hinkle-Turner. Through her innovation, the data now is tying answers to educational goals and using demographic data to target student learning better.

In addition to student-exam Scantrons, Luksich's three-person team, part of the University Information Technology Department, assists in the implementation of departmental course evaluations, which are then processed by her area. The evaluations allow students an opportunity to complete targeted surveys in specific courses giving them a voice in their educational process.

In the fiscal year 2014-2015, Luksich's office served 2,268 customers and processed and analyzed 143,304 exam sheets. More than 80,000 course evaluations filled out by students were processed and analyzed as well. Under Luksich's management, the DMS area provides a tool for virtually all students to be engaged and heard.

In addition to earning the UNT Student Success award, Luksich was honored March 3, 2016, for 20 years of service during the UNT

Service Recognition Ceremony, and has worked with some of the most forward-thinking educators at the university, said Hinkle-Turner. Her work with the Examsoft, exam software, a pilot project supporting elements of the university's Quality Enhancement Plan, led to the professors involved being able to show a positive impact on student retention and success. Her biggest clients from the UNT community come from the academic disciplines and elective courses.

Working with Research and Statistical Support Services staff members, Luksich expects to expand the learning outcomes analysis abilities to provide even more detailed reports and meaningful advising to faculty. With her contributions toward more focused data gathering and analysis of student exam and survey results, Luksich enables student development of needed skills and outcomes by promoting more effective teaching.

"In addition to being very proud to work at UNT, being in a supportive and kind work group is the best part of working here," she said. "And the campus, it's such a beautiful place; I love to walk outside to enjoy the stately architect, shade trees and beautiful landscaping."

A native Texan who has lived in Denton most of her life, Luksich is married and the mother of three daughters. She enjoys her home in the country near Sanger where she is a prolific gardener, home renovator and creator of decorative crafts. With two grandchildren, Luksich often can be found at ballet lessons or soccer matches on the weekends.

Charles Peterson

Charles Peterson joined UNT's high-performance computing team in April 2015 as a system administrator. Before that time, he worked as a graduate research assistant on the HPC team for three years. Peterson received his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry with a minor in computer science in 2009 from UNT. He stayed at UNT for graduate school along with Angela K. Wilson's group, The Wilson Research Group, conducting scientific research in computational quantum chemistry. Peterson successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in October 2015.

As an HPC system administrator, Peterson is involved in various activities that comprise maintaining a high-performance computer cluster. The HPC team members provide computing resources for researchers at UNT that require more computing power than typical desktop computers can produce. This type of resource allows researchers to run software that can involve using hundreds of central processing units and hundreds of gigabytes of memory to obtain quality data for their research.

The HPC studio, located in the General Academic Building, Room 535, provides visualization workstations for researchers requiring the use of visualization software to analyze data better. The HPC facility works closely with several UNT researchers in many departments of the university including chemistry, material science, physics, biology and mathematics.

Throughout the years, the HPC team, under the leadership of UIT, has maintained several HPC computing clusters for UNT. The current computing cluster that Peterson and the HPC team members manage is named Talon2. This computer cluster has more than 4,000 available CPU cores and access to more than 1.4 petabytes of storage space. The cluster utilizes an InfiniBand interconnect that can reach speeds up to 56 Gbps. An InfiniBand is a computer-networking communications standard used in high-performance computing that features very high throughput and very low latency. It is used for data interconnect both among and within computers.

The HPC staff also supports a variety of software from many research areas that can take advantage of a computing cluster. Approximately 500 researchers, 100 of whom are principal investigators, currently use Talon2 for their scientific research. In 2015, researchers at UNT spent 24.4 million CPU hours on Talon2.

The HPC studio and Talon2 are available for anyone at UNT whose research can benefit from using an HPC resource in their work. Peterson describes the HPC department as "providing anyone at UNT performing any type of calculation access to an advanced computing resource to produce better quality science."

Charles Peterson is a native Texan, who grew up in San Antonio. Outside of his HPC duties, Charles is involved in gaming. "I enjoy ordering pizza and spending all night gaming with groups of people," he said.

Carrie Stoeckert, left, listens as Charles Peterson explains an aspect of the Talon2 during the HPC Open House March 3, 2016 in the General Academic Building.

The HPC staff also includes DaMiri Young, manager of HPC Services, John Pearson and Geyani Kayyuru, graduate research assistants, and Garrett Crowe, administrative assistant.

Chris Stoermer

Chris Stoermer, information technology manager III, has been with UNT since the summer of 1996 when he started working as a student technician in the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science. He moved from student employment to a full-time computer support specialist position in the College of Business in 1999.

Working under Abraham John, senior director of Administrative Information Technology Services, Stoermer is now a team manager in AITS, which provides technology support services for most of the non-academic departments of the Denton campus and a few satellite offices off campus.

Stoermer prepared for his career by earning a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with a focus in network communications and systems management. He also has earned technical certifications in Oracle database administration and information technology infrastructure library foundations. He is also certified as a HIPAA security specialist, HIPAA professional and security compliance specialist.

Interest in technology goes back to his youth, said Stoermer.

"I started coding in several computer programming languages when I was in middle school, so I always knew I would end up in the computer science career field," he said. "My interest in systems management and network communications developed as technologies grew, but really came into focus during my service time in the United States Army while attached to a Patriot Missile Air Defense Artillery Unit. From there, it was just a matter of time before I found the right degree program which fit my interests in computer systems and topology."

"The toughest and best things about working in information technology: for me, these are really one in the same and captured in the acronym, "IT," information technology. Technology, itself, is really becoming part of everyday life for most of us. The challenge for the professionals in my field is to help balance the integration of technology with the user education needed to protect the information, personal, corporate, or otherwise. My team's slogan is, "IT works!" If you really think about how far that simple statement reaches when you consider information technology, you begin to understand the significance of managing the Information piece," he said.

Stoermer said his favorite part about working at UNT is that "higher education is all about pushing the envelope and looking beyond the present to see what is possible in the future. The university has historically invested – and continues to invest – in many new and emerging technologies. Being a part of these implementations, working with other technology professionals in our university network community and "making IT work" every day is just plain cool. I get to NERD OUT every day, and I am really good at that!"

In his off-duty time, Stoermer says he is a coffee aficionado and a fan of hockey, baseball and soccer. He said he roots for the Dallas Stars, Texas Rangers and "for those who watch real football – soccer for Americans, I support Manchester United – FOREVER UNITED."

In addition to being a spectator, Stoermer also is a participant in a Professional Association of Diving Instructors-certified scuba diver and said he dives whenever I can fit it into his schedule.

Heavily involved in the Boy Scouts of America, Stoermer is the scoutmaster of Troop 136 in Krum, Texas, where he also serves as the Frontier Trails District Membership Chair. He has staffed five National Youth Leadership Training courses and served as the director for a course that ended in March.

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