



October 2016

Campus Computing News: **What's in an Idea?**

By [Philip Baczewski](#), senior director, University IT

Introducing the UNT IT Idea Center

We live in an age of information technology. Over the last 30 years, there has been a continuing explosion of new technologies and services that has changed the world around us. Our home, commercial and university activities have all been affected and the pace of change seems to just get faster. The array of IT goods and services keeps expanding, providing plenty of potential applications to enhance, improve or even revolutionize how we pursue our



business or instructional activities. Such a wealth of possibilities yields an abundance of ideas for use of IT applications and services within all aspects of a university environment. But good ideas alone don't drive change and innovation within an organization. [Read more.](#)

Campus Computing News: [Lynda.com](#) Opens With a Strong Start

LyndaCampus opened Sept. 1, and in its first week was off to a strong start as hundreds of UNT students and employees explored online courses in software, creative and business skills to achieve personal and professional goals. As of Sept. 16, more than 1,200 Lynda.com visitors from UNT viewed 368 hours of 5,563 videos and 2,954 page views were counted on the [UIT Lynda.com](#) information page, according to Google Analytics. [Read more.](#)



Network Connection: [The Internet as We Know IT](#)

By [Philip Baczewski](#), senior director, University IT



Recent news reports indicate that the United States may have just [given away the internet](#). Before you become too alarmed, be aware that the U.S. has never actually "owned" the internet so there's nothing to be given away. The internet is an interconnection of networks and individual devices that exists without central control, with one exception. Someone's got to keep track of all of those addresses used to connect to various internet sites. [Read](#)

[more.](#)

Camera System Enhances Security in Sage Hall Computer-

Based Testing Center

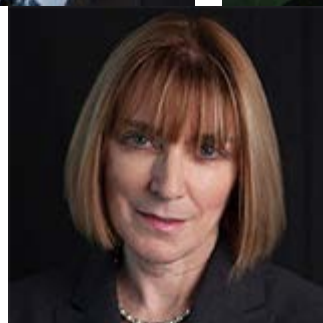


By [Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner](#), director, Instructional IT Services, University IT
Since its opening in Fall 2012, the [Sage Hall Computer-Based Testing Center](#) has hosted over 67,000 visits by students taking online exams and participating in online workshops and other online services. This support of computerized testing for distance, blended and



face-to-face classes includes providing as secure an environment as possible to promote academic integrity and student success. [Read more.](#)

People in the Zone



Our focus this month is on three more stellar nominees who come from the College of Engineering, and the departments of university and administrative information technology. Click on each nominee's name to read more. Also, be sure to read this month's article about [Ram Dantu](#), professor of computer science, who was named by D Magazine for a regional award, and [Mary Jones](#), department chair and professor of information systems, recognized at the Women in Technology Awards program by Dallas Business Journal.

[Jim Byford](#), IT manager, College of Engineering, Discovery Park

[Jacob Flores](#), manager for host computing and software license management, UIT

[Christopher Johnson](#), IT manager, AITS



High-Performance Computing Adds 3-D Printing Service for Researchers

By [Garrett Crowe](#), student assistant, High-Performance Computing Services, UIT

The new Flashforge Finder 3-D Printer has found a place in the office of High-Performance Computing Services in the General Academic Building. It is able to take a 3-D rendered object from a computer design, and reproduce the design into a three-dimensional object. [Read more.](#)

Learn to Code, Print a 3-D File, Make a Movie and Lots More in The Factory at Discovery Park

Everyone knows about Willis Library; it's one of the first UNT landmarks newcomers can identify at the university.

But do you know about [The Factory](#), its lineup of training classes, maker-technicians to help you and that it is open to UNT employees and students?



The UNT Libraries' makerspace, **The Factory**, located in Room 135 of the Discovery Park Library, promotes the cooperative and creative use of technology. The space provides the UNT community with access to equipment, software and training that promotes innovative, cross-disciplinary learning. Learn more about The Factory [here](#); for upcoming workshops, click [here](#).

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The UIT Department provides effective computing and information technology services to students, faculty and staff members. [Learn more about us!](#) [UIT Brochure](#), (.pdf, 285KB)


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August: [Phishing Attempts Change UNT Direct Deposit Process](#)

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Articles by Philip Baczewski, senior director, University Information Technology

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[Help Desk News and Information](#) – news published outside of the Benchmarks Online publication schedule.

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October: [Setting Inbox Rules in EagleConnect Email System](#)

August: [Installing Cisco AnyConnect VPN](#)

June: [Use the Clutter Feature to Sort Email in Microsoft Outlook](#)

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2016

October

[A new recommended way of dealing with multiple missing values: Using missForest for all your imputation needs.](#) Originally published July 2014, by Jonathan Starkweather, Ph.D.

August

[Statistical Resources, Update, Version 5](#) by Jonathan Starkweather, Ph.D.
[The Torpedo that Sank Least Squares: The Data Strike Back, Part 1](#) by Richard Herrington, Ph.D.

June

[Explicit Bayes: Working Concrete Examples to Introduce the Bayesian Perspective](#) by Jonathan Starkweather, Ph.D.

April

[Plotting Geographical Data: A Brief Introduction](#) by Jonathan Starkweather, Ph.D.

February

[Statistical Resources, Update, Version 4](#) by Jonathan Starkweather, Ph.D.

R&SS

Previous articles appearing in Benchmarks Online written by [Research and](#)

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Statistical Support Services consultants are available by clicking [here](#).

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Consultants: [Richard Herrington](#), Ph.D., and [Jonathan Starkweather](#), Ph.D.

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Hotspot: People in the Zone

Welcome to Hotspot, a small place online where UNT computing and information technology professionals and associated staff can rave about themselves, their geekiness and contributions to transforming UNT into a nationally prominent university. This is the good news area – the place to learn about colleagues in action, their roles and how members of the IT community are raising the benchmarks of excellence! Email a nomination with a brag sheet and photos any time to [Benchmarks Hotspot](#).

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October

[Jim Byford](#), IT manager, College of Engineering

[Jacob Flores](#), IT manager, IT User Services, UIT

[Christopher Johnson](#), IT manager, AITS

August

[Ginger Boone](#), IT manager, Facilities Services

[John Mayfield](#), web developer, PACS

[Charlotte Russell](#), chief information security officer, UNT System

June

[Jeff Anderson](#), systems administrator, UNT System

[Jennifer Lee](#), IT manager, Student Success Services, UIT

[Jennifer Spillman](#), IT programmer/analyst, UIT

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April

[JoAnn Luksich](#), IT manager, Data Management Services, Instructional IT Services, UIT

[Charles Peterson](#), IT manager, High-Performance Computing, UIT

[Chris Stoermer](#), IT manager, AITS

February

[Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner](#), director, Instructional IT Service, UIT

[Jacob King](#), web developer, URCM

[Brian Kucharski](#), web developer, URCM

[Anthony "Tony" Moreno](#), IT specialist, AITS

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AITS News & Information

Articles from Administrative Information Technology Services Newsletter

[Abraham John](#), senior director, AITS

Next Edition: December

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[Excel 2016 for Mac Offers](#)

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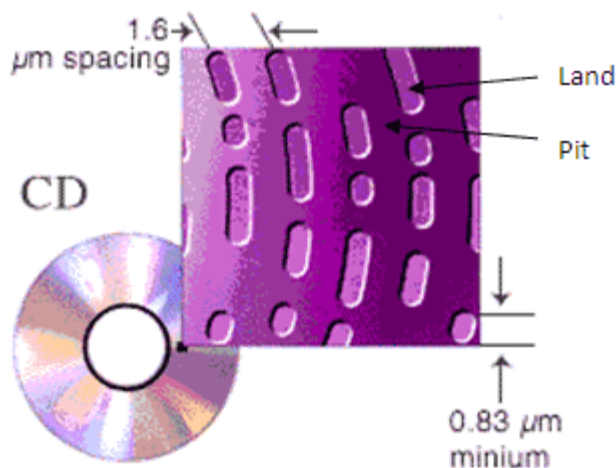
[Functionality](#) by Christopher Johnson, IT manager, AITS

[ID Theft on Facebook](#) by

Troy Bacon, IT manager, AITS

[Managing the Influx of](#)

[Email](#) by Aaron Powers, IT manager, AITS



[Phishing – Don't Click on That!](#) by Jason McMullen, IT manager, AITS

[Ransomware – A Rising Threat](#) by Abraham John, senior director, AITS

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[Monica Scott-Taliaferro](#), editor, UIT marketing

[Carrie Stoeckert](#), assistant director, planning, budget and communications

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Campus Computing: What's in an Idea?

By Philip Baczewski, senior director, University IT

Introducing the **UNT IT Idea Center**



We live in an age of information technology. Over the last 30 years, there has been a continuing explosion of new technologies and services that has changed the world around us. Our home, commercial, and university activities have all been affected and the pace of change seems to just get faster. The array of IT goods and services keeps expanding, providing plenty of potential applications to enhance, improve, or even revolutionize how

we pursue our business or instructional activities. Such a wealth of possibilities yields an abundance of ideas for use of IT applications and services within all aspects of a university environment. But good ideas alone don't drive change and innovation within an organization.

The life of an Idea

Ideas and their products have a life cycle. The first stage is the conception of the idea -- in other words, the moment when the metaphorical lightbulb goes on and spurs us to do something different and/or innovative. If we want this

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idea to go beyond our personal scope and work within a group or organization, then the next step is development and testing of the resulting product. For large-scale deployments, a pilot phase is often used to establish the practice of a new product and develop training and documentation for the organization. Deployment or implementation establishes the idea as an ongoing resource within the organization. And the often forgotten stage is that at some point that idea may be obsolete and need to be retired.

In a complex organization like a large university, there are a lot of good ideas for employing new information technology, but even some of the best ideas may not make it past -- or even to -- the testing and development stage. It's easy for an idea to become lost in the maze of the organization. Who should hear about your idea? Your manager or department chair? Your Director or Dean? [CLEAR](#) or [UIT](#) or [ITSS](#)? The answer may be "none of the above" or "all of the above" depending on the nature and scope of the idea. A path through this maze is needed to be sure that all good ideas get their fair consideration and to be sure we are not missing an opportunity to, at least, keep up with the times or to drive innovation within our university.

Enter, the IT Idea Center

The UNT IT Idea Center is a process by which information technology-centered ideas or projects can be proposed and developed for possible implementation as a formal project or targeted as an incubation project to explore emerging trends. The Idea Center allows individuals, business units, or ad hoc interest groups to submit fully-formed ideas or speculative applications that could advance the mission of UNT.

Ideas are vetted by UNT IT staff who have expertise or a job function related to the proposed concept.



The process established for considering IT ideas is meant to bridge the large gap that often arises between concept and implementation. The process is meant to consider practicality, scope, resources, and funding associated with the idea and includes the following steps:

1. An Idea is proposed via the online submission system on the UIT web page (see below).

2. The Idea is forwarded to IT management with related expertise or oversight for evaluation and recommendation.
3. The Idea may be assigned to an individual or working group for further investigation or routed to IT Governance for information gathering and evaluation.
4. Recommendations, supporting information, and resource suggestions for an idea are documented for further consideration.

The outcome of the process will be to help foster the development of a formal project, to forward the idea, if ready, for consideration by UNT's IT Planning and Prioritization committee, or to provide feedback regarding the possible progress or further development of the idea if it doesn't yet seem to be a ready fit for the proposed scope.

The Democratization of Ideas

The IT Idea Center is the formalization of a process that has been occurring for many years. We've had good ideas come forward and have spent time and effort to ensure that we can make effective use of new or newly adopted technologies. A recent example is the adoption of [Lynda.com](#) training resources for UNT. Another example is the availability of [Panopto](#) lecture capture for use in potentially any of the generally-scheduled classrooms at UNT. Even the [Blackboard Learn](#) Learning Management System was at one time an idea kicking around about ways to support online learning.

What's new with the IT Idea Center is that it expands the source of ideas to encompass the entire UNT community. Visiting the IT Idea Center at <http://it.unt.edu/idea4it> allows you to share a quick idea or to start development of a formal proposal. We can't guarantee that all ideas will be adopted, but we can guarantee that all ideas will be considered.



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LyndaCampus Opens at UNT

October 2016 – In its first week, LyndaCampus opened on Sept. 1 with a strong start as hundreds of UNT students and employees explored online courses in software, creative and business skills to achieve personal and professional goals. As of Sept. 16, more than 1,200 Lynda.com visitors from UNT viewed 368 hours of 5,563 videos and 2,954 page views were counted on the [UIT Lynda.com](#) information page, according to Google Analytics.



We had 770 student addresses signed up, 399 employee addresses, and 52 others, perhaps those who have merged a past profile with their UNT login for September. As of Oct. 14, more than 1,780 users have activated their UNT Lynda.com accounts and 1,314 hours of video have been viewed. More than 20,000 video sessions have been viewed and six faculty members are using Lynda.com in their academic courses this fall: ADES 3510, BCIS 4630, BCIS 4740, INFO 5960, GEOG 2110, MKTG 4620 and three sections of JOUR 3210, according to Mary Speight, instructional technology administrator, Center for

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Learning Enhancement, Assessment and Redesign.

Top 10 Courses Viewed

1. Microsoft® Project 2016: Essential Training
2. Photoshop CC 2015 One-on-One: Fundamentals
3. Finance Fundamentals
4. Agile Project Management
5. Introduction to Graphic Design
6. Photoshop CS6 One-on-One: Fundamentals
7. Foundations of Programming: Fundamentals
8. Project Management Fundamentals
9. Illustrator for Fashion Design: Drawing Flats
10. Tableau 9 Essential Training

Take a look at all of the LyndaCampus courses [here](#).

Top 10 Videos Viewed

1. Getting started with Illustrator
2. Drawing basic shapes for your logo
3. Drawing complex shapes
4. Combining shapes together
5. Using the Ribbon
6. What is agile project management?
7. Overview of the agile life cycle
8. What do you already know?
9. Using the exercise files
10. Navigating the Backstage view

*"I love it very much, see my LinkedIn for what I have completed. I am taking a piano lesson now." **Sharon Huang, Ph.D.**, IT Specialist II, AITS*

Whether you're an individual, wanting to learn new skills, or part of a club, office or department that is requiring you to learn something new, there is

something for you on Lynda.com. Employees and students of UNT now can choose from any of the thousands of courses via individual instructional videos, available on topics covering business, technology and creative fields. Learn from hundreds of authors, who are recognized industry experts, and enjoy the flexibility to view Lynda.com content, anytime, anywhere, with offline viewing and mobile apps, for iOS, Android, Apple TV and ROKU.

*"I appreciate the ability to make playlists and then share them with employees as a method of training." **Ashley Olsberg**, IT manager, classroom support services manager, University Information Services*

Still not sure about Lynda? Watch an introductory video to Lynda.com [here](#).

After logging in, you can begin with a brief overview of the navigation system, and how to navigate to the courses and content you want to watch, along with the details on where to find further information to support your learning goals. The introduction also covers the ins and outs of the custom video player, including how to control video playback options, such as speed controls, closed captioning, and the size of the video on your screen. You also will look at some advanced features that are offered, including the transcripts feature, how to bookmark videos, how to create playlists, how to take notes, how to use practice environments, and how to manage your profile and interests to make it easier to find content and courses that are relevant to you. And, finally, you will be walked through some trouble-shooting options, and informed about where to go if you have any questions you would like to get answers to, or comments that you would like to pass on to Lynda.com.

*"I have started a presentation in agile project management. That topic interests me because project management is something that I have been heavily involved in with previous employers and I want to stay on top of the latest techniques. Project management has always interested me and the principles can be used in all walks of life, even in my current position. I am sure there are other topics that I will cover. One should never stop learning new things. It keeps the mind stimulated!" **Robin**, administrative coordinator*

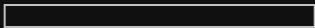
For more information and to log in to LyndaCampus, visit <https://it.unt.edu/lynda>. Access to Lynda.com simply requires clicking on the green button labeled "Lynda.com Sign In" and entering a valid UNT EUID and password. Previous users of Lynda.com can import prior usage

history into a UNT profile by following the setup instructions for computer or mobile devices.

LyndaCampus courses can be accessed from within Blackboard Learn, UNT's learning management system, and faculty are encouraged to incorporate these materials into their courses. For more information about the LyndaCampus and Blackboard Learn integration, please see <http://bbsupport.unt.edu/lynda>. For assistance in setting up Lynda.com integration in a Blackboard Learn course site, UNT instructors can contact the UNT CLEAR Faculty Helpdesk by phone at 940-369-7394, or by email at clearhelp@unt.edu.

For assistance with Lynda.com or other information technology issue, please contact the UIT Help Desk.

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University of North Texas students and employees are eligible to create accounts on Lynda.com. On this page, you will find links to sign-in to your account along with setup instructions to establish a Lynda.com account from a computer and mobile device. Click [here](#) or on the green sign-in button below to access your Lynda.com account.



Find more than 4,700 video tutorials on multimedia production, design, professional skills and more – for UNT faculty, staff and currently enrolled students!

Setup Instructions

Click [here](#) for computer or mobile device setup instructions.

LyndaCampus and Blackboard Learn

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Lynda.com is a leading online learning platform that helps people learn business, software, technology and creative skills to achieve personal and professional goals. Through the University of North Texas subscription, UNT students and employees have access to the Lynda.com video library of engaging, top-quality courses taught by recognized industry experts.

For 20 years, Lynda.com has helped students, leaders, IT and design pros, project

managers—anyone in any role—build software, creative, and business skills. Now part of LinkedIn, Lynda.com serves more than 10,000 organizations. With tutorials in five languages, Lynda.com is a global platform for success.

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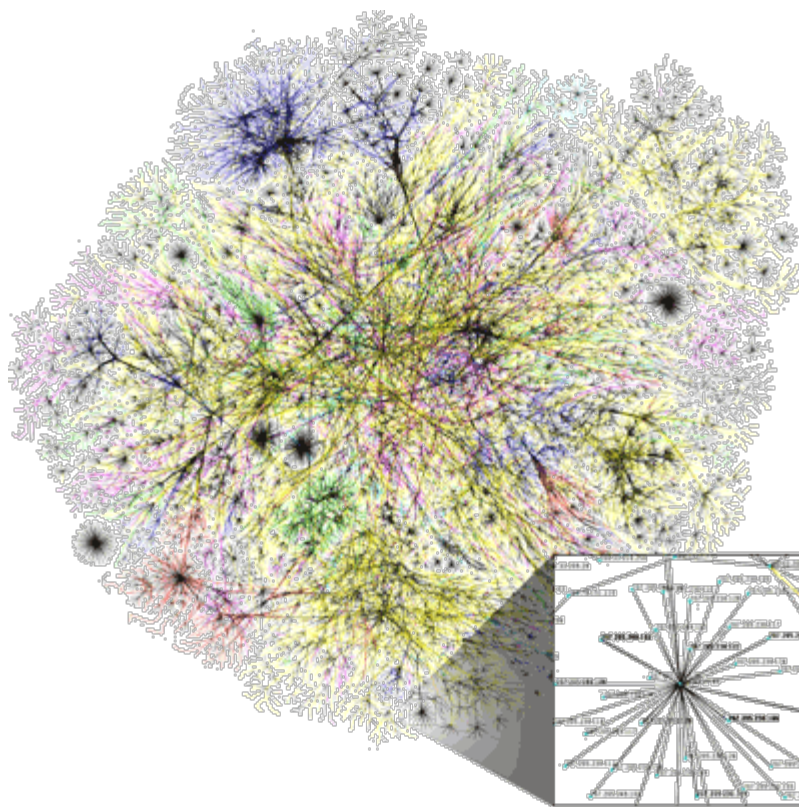
Network Connection, October 2016

The Internet as We Know It

By Philip Baczewski, senior director, University Information Technology

Recent news reports indicate that the United States may have just [given away the internet](#).

Before you become too alarmed, be aware that the U.S. has never actually "owned" the internet so there's nothing to be given away. The internet is an interconnection of networks and individual devices that exists without central control, with one exception. Someone's got to keep track of all of those addresses used to connect to



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various internet sites.

Name and Number

Computers connect to remote internet locations base on numeric addresses. Humans tend to remember words better than numbers (do you even know your own cell phone number?), so early in the internet's development a system was devised to translate address names into the corresponding address numbers. Humans also like to organize things into categories, so we also came up with different names for different kinds of organizations using the internet. Hence our university addresses end in .EDU and most of the commercial sites we visit end in .COM, etc.

At the dawn of the Internet, one man was in charge of assigning numeric addresses to internet names, or to be more exact, Fully-Qualified Domain Names (FQDN). [Jon Postel](#) is the closest we have to an internet saint, and was one of the founding fathers of the internet as we now know it. But the job of keeping track of all of those names and numbers soon outgrew the capacity of one researcher, and in September of 1998, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ([ICANN](#)) was incorporated as a non-profit organization to manage the assignment of addresses with some oversight by the U.S. Department of Commerce. After a number of extensions over the



years, that oversight ended as of Oct. 1, 2016.

Time and Time Again

Long-time readers of this column (if they exist) will recognize this news as a recurring topic.

These range from the [establishment](#) of ICAAN reported in 1998, to the first [discussion](#) of the possibility of an independent ICAAN in 2005, and the political wrangling in [2012](#) and [2014](#) over the fate of ICAAN. In 2014, I described this struggle as the U.S. Government's separation anxiety from control over the Internet.

The separation anxiety was once again exhibited by certain political factions in anticipation of the Oct. 1 transition. One Texas senator (he who must not be

named) pushed to include language in the recent [funding bill](#) to block the transition of ICANN to independent operation. The objection cited was a threat to free speech, but those of us living in the irony age may [remember](#) that it was the U.S. Government that sought to suppress the creation of the [.XXX](#) top-level domain. The latest legislative effort was not successful, with some [pointing out](#) that a delay could play into other countries hands by bolstering efforts to transfer control to an organization like the U.N.

Not to be outdone, four states (including Texas) [sued](#) the federal government to block the the transition of ICAAN oversight. They [claimed](#) that the feds were giving away government property without authorization. This effort to maintain control of ICANN was also [unsuccessful](#).

The End of an Era

In a move perhaps as significant as the change to stop [capitalizing](#) "Internet," Oct. 1 marks the start of an independently operating internet. The best outcome from this transition was that nobody noticed. That's because nothing actually changed in the way that addresses and names are assigned and used. Internet technology has become intrinsic to our daily lives, and there is quite a bit of incentive, both economic and social, to be sure it all keeps working. At the age of 18, it seems that ICAAN has finally come of age.



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