

EITS Status and Activity Report for March 2015

Prepared by Timothy M. Chester, Vice President for Information Technology (VPIT)

1. Announcements for Faculty and Staff Meetings

- *SecureUGA Training Deadline is March 31:* The deadline for UGA faculty, staff, student workers, and contractors to complete their SecureUGA training is March 31. Units are encouraged to remind their faculty, staff, and student workers of the upcoming deadline. SecureUGA is an online security awareness training program mandated by University System of Georgia (USG) policy. SecureUGA helps UGA employees and contractors understand, identify, and respond appropriately to information security threats. Current employees who have previously completed SecureUGA can select one of three options to meet the training requirements for SecureUGA, based on their needs. For more information about SecureUGA, please point a web browser to <http://secure.uga.edu>. For questions about SecureUGA, please contact Brian Rivers by email at brivers@uga.edu.

2. Support for Student Technology Services

- *Summer and Fall 2015 Class Registration to Open in Athena:* Registration for summer and fall 2015 classes will start in Athena on April 3. Athena uses a time ticketing system to enable students to register for classes in an efficient manner. Students are given a date and a time to log in to Athena to register for classes. Students may register for classes from their appointment times until the summer semester drop/all period.
- *Free Laptop Security Checkups Available April 7-8:* The Computer Health and Security Fair will be held on April 7-8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Zell B. Miller Learning Center in the second floor rotunda. UGA students, faculty, and staff are welcome to bring their personal laptops for free security checks by technical employees from EITS and the Franklin College Office of Information Technology. During the event, technical volunteers will provide security checks and free virus and malware removal. They will also install the latest software and security updates, ensure that firewalls are enabled, and update antivirus and operating systems. For students, the Computer Health and Security Fair is a popular event that also provides information on security awareness. For more information about the fair, please point a web browser to <http://www.t.uga.edu/1hR> or contact Sara Pauff at spauff@uga.edu.
- *More Collaboration Tools Available with Office 365:* In recent months, EITS has expanded the collaboration tools available to all students, faculty, and staff under their UGAMail accounts, which are powered by Microsoft's Office 365. The latest tools include OneDrive for Business, Lync, and Office ProPlus, all of which have been launched in recent months. OneDrive for Business is a file storage and sharing option that allows colleagues to share and edit documents in real time. UGA students and employees have 1 TB of file storage with OneDrive for Business. Lync is an instant messaging, video conferencing, and online meeting solution that is ideal for small groups who want to meet online. Microsoft will rename Lync as Skype for Business this year. All UGA students, faculty, and staff can also take advantage of free installation of Office ProPlus on up to five personal devices. Office ProPlus includes Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and more. The EITS Help Desk website has instructions on using all of these resources at <http://eitshelpdesk.uga.edu>. For additional information, please contact Keith Martin at keith.martin@uga.edu by email.

3. Support for Academic and Administrative Computing

- *Update on Financial and HR Administrative Systems Options and Readiness Assessment Project:* Extensive work by a number of UGA stakeholder groups, along with guidance from Collegiate Project Services (CPS), a consultant partner, has allowed the University to complete the finance and human resources administrative systems evaluation project. The project goals included determining high-level requirements for the University's next generation finance and HR administrative systems, a system options assessment, a reporting discovery analysis, and a campus readiness assessment for a systems and business process transformation project. UGA has initiated a new engagement with CPS in an effort to determine a high-level scope and systems fit/gap analysis, in an effort to validate the anticipated PeopleSoft 9.2 finance and HR systems implementation project budget. The scope and business validation efforts are expected to conclude in June 2015. For more information, please point a web browser to the project's website at www.collegiateproject.com/uga or contact Chris Wilkins at chris.wilkins@uga.edu by email.
- *Wireless Communications Device System Decommissioned:* The Wireless Communications Device (WCD) approval system has been decommissioned, effective March 1. The Business Services Advisory Group recently recommended changes to the WCD policy and procedures, which resulted in the need to decommission the WCD approval system. Instead, deans and vice presidents will manage the approval and device tracking process for their units. The revised WCD policy and procedures is available on Finance and Administration's website at <http://t.uga.edu/1d4>. EITS Telephone Services will maintain a master copy of the data for one year. For questions about departmental data from the WCD approval system, please contact Dennis Flint at dwflint@uga.edu. For questions about the new process, please contact Claire Boyd, assistant procurement officer, at cboyd@uga.edu or 706-542-7107.

4. Support for Research

- *Buy-In Program Available for New Cluster:* To encourage faculty use of the new cluster for the Georgia Advanced Computing Resources Center (GACRC), the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology is offering a matching program for an additional computing node at no cost, to match the ones purchased through the options available in this buy-in program. A total of \$100,000 will be made available through the program in FY15 and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The GACRC is currently installing a major new cluster, called Sapelo, which will provide additional computational and storage services for researchers throughout the University. For more information, including specifics about the buy-in program, please contact Dr. Guy Cormier at gcormier@uga.edu by email.

5. Core Campus Infrastructure

- *Funds Available for Wireless Network Access in Faculty, Staff Areas:* In order to expand faculty and staff access to the PAWS-Secure wireless network, the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology is offering a 50% subsidy towards installation of new PAWS-Secure wireless access. The University offers PAWS-Secure throughout the campus to areas primarily used by students through funds provided by the Student Technology Fee. For faculty and staff areas, wireless service is charged to departments. To qualify for a subsidy, PAWS-Secure must be in areas primarily used by faculty and staff offices, or in meeting and collaboration spaces. A total of \$100,000 is available on a first-

come, first-served basis. Departments should request a quote for PAWS-Secure wireless service by using the form available at <https://eits.uga.edu/support/request/cable>. After a quote is received from EITS, it should be forwarded to the VPIT office with a memo seeking a 50% subsidy. For more information about this program, please contact Mike Lucas at mlucas@uga.edu by email.

- *Engineering Facility Now on Campus Network:* The College of Engineering's facility on Whitehall Road in East Athens now has a direct link to the campus network, which offers faster and more reliable network services. The Whitehall Engineering Education and Research Campus is a large-scale research and testing facility and an educational venue for the College of Engineering and is critical for its civil engineering program. EITS coordinated with the College of Engineering to bring this connection to the Whitehall facility. With the new connection, the College of Engineering plans to expand the number of classes offered at the facility. For more information, please contact Mike Lucas at mlucas@uga.edu by email.
- *Security Tools To Protect Restricted Data Available:* For UGA employees whose jobs require them to handle restricted data, such as Social Security numbers or credit card numbers, EITS offers several services to help ensure personally-identifiable information remains protected. The latest service is Secure Virtual Desktop (VDI), which provides a more secure desktop environment for employees handling restricted data as part of their business processes. Other services include Secure Reports, an encrypted repository for receiving and storing sensitive and restricted data via regular reports; Data Loss Prevention (DLP), a software service that resides on computers to monitor, protect, and manage sensitive data wherever it is stored; and ArchPass, a multifactor authentication system for systems with sensitive and restricted data. For more information about these resources, please point a web browser to <http://infosec.uga.edu> or contact Brian Rivers at brivers@uga.edu by email.

6. Did You Know?

- Starting in April, the Vice President for Information Technology will administer the TechQual+ survey to assess the effectiveness of technology services across the University. Through a random sampling, UGA students, faculty, and staff will be asked to gauge the effectiveness of a number of IT services, such as network connectivity, websites, administrative systems, and wireless services. The results of the TechQual+ survey are used to prioritize and implement future IT initiatives. TechQual+ is used by higher education IT departments across the U.S., which allows UGA to compare its results with those from other institutions. For more information about the TechQual+ survey, please visit www.techqual.org or contact Lynn Wilson at llatimer@uga.edu by email.

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