EITS Status and Activity Report for October 2013

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

1. Announcements for Faculty and Staff Meetings

   • **Second UGAMail Upgrade Coming in November.** Microsoft is requiring all of its Office 365 Education clients, including the University, to upgrade to the latest version of Office 365 Education for email, calendar, and task services. At this time, the date of the upgrade has not been determined by Microsoft, but it will be sometime in November. EITS will communicate the upgrade date when it becomes available. This upgrade is primarily a change in the look of the web interface of UGAMail, which will show Microsoft’s latest branding for Office 365. Screen shots of the new web interface are available at [office365.uga.edu](http://office365.uga.edu). UGAMail mailboxes sizes will also be increased from a maximum of 25 GB to 50 GB. For more information, please point a browser to [http://office365.uga.edu](http://office365.uga.edu) on the Web.

   • **Georgia Center Extends Wireless Access for MyID users.** Guests at the Georgia Center who have UGA MyIDs can now access the Georgia Center’s wireless network for up to a 90-day period for each registered device. Previously, MyID users could access Wi-Fi at the Georgia Center for a 10-day period before registering their devices again. People with MyIDs may select the wireless network at the Georgia Center called “UGA” and register their devices with their MyID username and password. For more information, please point a browser to [http://tinyurl.com/n46o2wt](http://tinyurl.com/n46o2wt) or contact Corey Doster at corey.doster@georgiacenter.uga.edu by email.

2. Support for Student Technology Services

   • **UGA vLab (Virtual Computer Lab) Includes More Software:** The University’s new virtual computer lab, called vLab, allows students to remotely access software in a computer lab “anywhere, anytime” with their own devices, such as a phone, tablet, laptop, or desktop. The vLab now includes Adobe Digital Editions, Corel PrintShoPro X6, Astah Community Edition, Bizagi, and BlueJ. Other available titles include Microsoft Office, SPSS, Stata, LabStats, and EndNote. Students may access the vLab on their devices by visiting [http://vlab.uga.edu](http://vlab.uga.edu) and installing the Citrix Receiver, which is free. Instructors are also encouraged to use the vLab for classroom purposes. For more information on the vLab, please point a browser to [http://vlab.uga.edu](http://vlab.uga.edu) on the Web or contact Shawn Ellis at spellis@uga.edu by email.

   • **Computer Health and Security Fair to be Held for Two Days.** EITS will offer free security checks of the personal laptops of UGA students, faculty, and staff during the Computer Health and Security Fair. The event will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 29-30, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Miller Learning Center, second floor lobby. Technical volunteers will provide free virus and malware removal, and offer security consultations and check-ups to ensure that laptops are using the latest and most secure software and plug-ins. After an overwhelming positive response to the fair in April, the event has been expanded to a second day. University department-issued computers will not be checked at the fair. For more information, point a browser to [http://tinyurl.com/lhfuzkv](http://tinyurl.com/lhfuzkv) on the Web or contact Kerri Testement at kerriuga@uga.edu by email.
3. Support for Academic and Administrative Computing

- **Removal of SSNs from Core Admin Systems Set for December.** A project team is working on a process that will remove or replace more than 50 million Social Security Numbers (SSNs) from the University’s core administrative systems, including IMS and DB2 databases. The SSNs will either be removed or replaced by another identifier, such as a UGAID number. The Securing Administrative Information (SAI) project team recently tested the process and gathered information that will help implement the conversion of the IMS and DB2 databases on December 21, 2013. For more information about the SAI project, please contact Kim Woods at kwoods@uga.edu by email.

- **Graduate School to Launch New Portal.** The Graduate School and EITS are working together on a new Grad School admissions portal, called “Grad Status.” The new system will replace the current GEMS application and will include features such as electronic document management, Banner integration, and the ability for applicants to check the status of their applications. Grad Status is slated to be launched in October. For more information about the new Graduate School portal, please contact Danna Gianforte at danna@uga.edu or Cheri Bliss at cglaze@uga.edu by email.

4. Support for Research

- **New Chairman, Members Named to GACRC Advisory Committee:** The Georgia Advanced Computing Research Center (GACRC) has elected Peter Kner, an assistant professor at the College of Engineering, as its new chairman. Past chairman, Thiab Taha, a professor of computer science, has joined the committee as an ex-officio member. Other GACRC Advisory Committee members are: Jonathan Amster, chemistry; Jonathan Arnold, genetics; Martha Carr, educational psychology and instructional technology; Margie Lee, population health; Jim Leebens-Mack, plant biology; David Saltz, theatre and film studies; Richard Watson, management information systems; and Yiping Zhao, physics and astronomy. Former committee members Mary Ann Moran of marine sciences and Paul Schliekelman of statistics are thanked for their three years of service to the GACRC. For more information about the GACRC, please point a browser to http://gacrc.uga.edu on the Web or contact Dr. Guy Cormier, director, at gcormier@uga.edu by email.

5. Core Campus Infrastructure

- **Campus-wide Licenses for Specific Novell Products Will End.** Effective July 1, 2014, the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology will no longer purchase campus-wide licenses for the following legacy Novell products: Novell Open Enterprise Server, Novell ZENWorks Server and Configuration Tools, Novell GroupWise, and SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server. Units have the option to adopt other software, including some that are available for free or on a cost-recovery basis, or to purchase individual licenses from the USG Software Resources and Services (SRS). For more information about Novell licensing options or available alternatives, please contact Shawn Ellis at spellis@uga.edu.

- **AT&T Works to Improve Cellular Service at Health Sciences Campus and Sanford Stadium.** Teams from UGA facilities, EITS, and other units are collaborating with AT&T to install additional cellular sites at both Sanford Stadium and the Health Sciences
Campus (HSC), in order to improve services for students, faculty, and staff at those locations. The design for the HSC is being readied with construction expected to begin in the Spring 2014 semester. The same is also occurring for Sanford Stadium, with improved services expected to be available for the 2014 football season. For more information regarding cellular service on UGA campuses, please contact Michael Lucas at mlucas@uga.edu by email.

6. Did You Know?

• **iOS 7 Downloads Set New Internet Capacity Record.** For the second time in a year, a new version of the Apple operating system, iOS 7, set a new record for the highest one-day use of Internet capacity at UGA. When iOS 6 was released in September 2012, people downloading the new iOS to their phones, tablets, and computers reached a height of 3.6 GB of UGA’s 20 GB Internet capacity. When iOS 7 was released on September 18, 2013, capacity reached a new high of 5.1 GB. Thanks to the expansion of UGA’s Internet bandwidth in 2012, the campus’s connectivity remained reliable throughout this period of peak use.

• **State of Technology Presentations.** Dr. Timothy Chester, vice president for information technology, will present the State of Technology at UGA to several groups during the fall semester. Presentations will be made to the following groups: the EdTech user’s group, the Information Technology Manager’s Forum (ITMF), UGANet, the Provost’s Advisory Council, and possibly the University Council. An open forum for all UGA students, faculty, staff is set for November 5, from 2-4 p.m, at the Georgia Center, Masters Hall. If you would like this presentation to be made for an additional group, please contact Timothy Chester at tchester@uga.edu by email.

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