

## Vice President for Information Technology Status and Activity Report for November 2021

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

### 1. Key Items for Faculty and Staff Meetings

- *State of Technology address set for November 17:* Dr. Timothy M. Chester's annual State of Technology address will be on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. via Zoom. To register, please visit [State of IT registration](#). All University students, faculty and staff are welcome to join. For more information, contact Lynn Wilson at [llatimer@uga.edu](mailto:llatimer@uga.edu).

### 2. Services for Students

- *Notice to graduating seniors of MyID account expiration:* To ensure the continued security of the UGA network and prevent unauthorized access to the network, EITS regularly disables accounts of students who have left the university. Student MyID accounts will be disabled approximately a year after the student has graduated or left UGA. When these accounts are disabled, students lose access to many UGA IT services, including UGAMail. However, many graduating seniors are unaware of this process. To make them more aware of this process, EITS will send notices to all students eligible for graduation in December 2021. Account owners will receive a notice on November 29 with additional communication being provided through social media, The Stall Street Journal, and reminders from academic advisors. Please help us throughout this process by reminding your graduating students that they will lose access to their MyID in a year, and should establish a non-UGA email account to apply for jobs, graduate school or professional schools. For more information, visit [https://eits.uga.edu/access\\_and\\_security/myid/myid\\_account\\_removal/](https://eits.uga.edu/access_and_security/myid/myid_account_removal/).
- *Push notifications coming soon to UGA Mobile App:* Students, faculty and staff will soon be able to receive exclusive UGA updates directly to their mobile devices through the UGA Mobile App. Push notifications will be used to deliver useful information, such as local and UGA emergencies, severe weather alerts, UGA gameday information and class registration reminders. A notification bell will be displayed at the top right of the home screen. Users will be able to turn notifications on and off and set it to display alerts and updates. Users can also "opt-in" to various notification channels. The UGA Mobile App team is also working on improvements to the home screen. This includes, but is not limited to, the relocation of icons to the bottom bar for one-handed use, customizable favorites and an interactive announcements section. EITS plans to enable push notifications and roll out home screen improvements in the next few months. The UGA Mobile App is the best of the Bulldog Nation in one central mobile app for students, visitors, parents, faculty, staff and fans. It's the official mobile app of the University of Georgia. For more information, visit [mobileapps.uga.edu](http://mobileapps.uga.edu).
- *More than \$1M in campus wireless upgrades planned:* EITS will soon begin work on more wireless upgrades in buildings across the Athens, Buckhead and Griffin campuses. These upgrades are part of EITS's work to continuously improve wifi connectivity and coverage to support teaching, learning and student life. The \$1.2 million project, funded by Student Technology Fees, includes wireless refreshes and redesigns in the following buildings: Caldwell Hall, Brooks Hall, Boyd Graduate Studies, Pharmacy North & South, the Davison Life Sciences Complex, the Coverdell Center, the Complex Carbohydrate

Research Center, Graduate Housing on Rogers Road, University Housing Buildings J,K, and L, Brown Hall, Russell Hall, Creswell Hall, Mell Hall, Lipscomb Hall, Church Hall, Boggs Hall, Oglethorpe House and the Griffin Campus. More access point replacements are also planned at the Center for Applied Genetic Technologies, the Lamar Dodd School of Art, the Ramsey Student Center, the Science Learning Center, the Terry-Buckhead campus and Wright Hall, Rhodes Hall, Miller Hall and Russell Hall at the Health Sciences Campus. In addition, more improvements to outdoor wireless are planned for spaces north of Meigs Hall, along Herty Drive, Myers Quad and the greenspace on the north side of Grady College, and PAWS-Secure access will be added to areas of the Georgia Center for Continuing Education, except the hotel. EITS technicians are working with departments to determine timelines for implementation. Work is expected to be completed by June 2022. For more information, contact Chris Fleming at [cfleming@uga.edu](mailto:cfleming@uga.edu).

### 3. Support for Researchers

- *GACRC Open on Demand makes research computing resources easy to access:* The Georgia Advanced Computing Resource Center (GACRC) has deployed an alternative method to interact with our high-performance computing cluster. Open OnDemand (OOD) is a web-based service that helps computational researchers and students efficiently utilize remote computing resources by making them easy to access from any device, via a convenient web interface. Through Open OnDemand, graphical applications can be utilized on the cluster far more easily and smoothly than using X11 forwarding. It also helps computer center staff support a wide range of clients by simplifying the user interface and experience. OOD web-based features include job submission and monitoring, file transfer and management, file editing, shell access and a graphical desktop on the cluster. Additionally, a number of graphical applications can now be easily accessed through OOD, including Matlab, Rstudio, Mathematica, Paraview and Geneious. Other applications can be added upon demand to the GACRC staff. Sapelo2 users can access this interface by opening a web browser and pointing it at the following URL: <https://ondemand.gacrc.uga.edu>. Documentation about OOD is located at <https://wiki.gacrc.uga.edu/wiki/OnDemand>. Training sessions and video material will be available and announced to the GACRC user community. For more information, contact Dr. Guy Cormier at [gcormier@uga.edu](mailto:gcormier@uga.edu).

### 4. Support for Staff and Administrators

- *Financial Management System Upgrade and Downtime:* The Financial Management application will be upgraded Friday, November 12 – Monday, November 15. Some of these changes will be transparent to users, and details regarding functional changes will be communicated prior to the upgrade. Financial Management System users should expect downtime between 5:00 pm on Friday, November 12, to 7:00 am on Monday, November 15, while updates are applied. Please refer to [status.uga.edu](http://status.uga.edu) during the upgrade for timely updates.
- *Verify and claim your Departmental MyID accounts by November 24:* EITS conducts an annual verification of all Departmental MyID accounts. Departmental MyID accounts are often used by units, colleges and departments for running automated processes and to establish a contact email for a department or program. We conduct an annual verification to ensure all accounts have a current owner who is classified by central HR as a full-time faculty or staff member. This verification also ensures other important information connected to the Departmental MyID is still correct. The 2021 Departmental MyID verification process will kick off October 25 and conclude November 24. Primary owners

of Departmental MyID accounts will receive an email from EITS Access Services asking them to complete the verification process through TeamDynamix. The verification process must be completed by November 24. Primary account owners will receive several reminders until the process is complete. Accounts that are not verified by November 24 will be disabled. For more information, please contact Gary Pitman at [gpitjr@uga.edu](mailto:gpitjr@uga.edu).

## 5. Other General Services

- *Supported Office apps (versions retiring):* To ensure that we meet performance expectations, EITS is updating the supported versions of Outlook for Windows that can connect to Microsoft 365 services. This process will begin November 1, 2021 and will be completed by mid-May 2022. Starting November 1, the following versions of Outlook for Windows, as part of Office and Microsoft 365 Apps, will not be able to connect with Office 365 and Microsoft 365 services: Office 2013, Office 2016, Microsoft 365 Apps for enterprise (formerly Office 365 ProPlus, Microsoft 365 Apps for business (formerly Office 365 Business). For more information, contact Ashley Henry at [ashenry@uga.edu](mailto:ashenry@uga.edu).
- *LinkedIn Learning account clean-up planned this fall:* In order to ensure that the UGA LinkedIn Learning associated license count is current, it is necessary to periodically complete a user cleanup to remove users who are no longer associated with the university. EITS will conduct an account cleanup this fall with notices to affected users planned October – December 2021. The clean will be complete in late December. For more information, contact Bret Jamieson at [bret.jamieson@uga.edu](mailto:bret.jamieson@uga.edu).
- *Major network bandwidth expansion under way to improve connectivity:* EITS networking staff are working on a multi-year project to upgrade building routers, increasing network bandwidth for research and allowing for 10G connectivity. The Building Edge Router Refresh project will upgrade the current building edge routers and cabling in 180 buildings to a new platform that connects buildings back to the university's core network. Buildings completed in October include the Savannah River Ecology Lab, VetMed Complex, Mary Lyndon, Payne Hall, Morris Hall, Lipscomb Hall, Mell Hall, Family Housing Office. Buildings scheduled for October include University Bookstore, Oglethorpe House, Foley Field, East Campus Parking Deck, and Staff Training. Additional migrations are currently being planned. Visit [https://eits.uga.edu/network\\_and\\_phones/building\\_edge\\_router\\_project/](https://eits.uga.edu/network_and_phones/building_edge_router_project/) for more information.

## 6. Did You Know

- *Faculty Guide available this month:* The 2021-2022 Technology Resources Guide for Faculty and Staff will be mailed to University employees later this month. The Technology Resources Guide provides an overview of the IT services, tools and resources available to UGA faculty and staff. The guide features information about instructional technology, research computing, email, IT security, MyID accounts, wireless service, training and more. It also includes information about departmental resources, as many colleges and units provide technical support for their employees. The guide will also be available online at [newtocampus.uga.edu](http://newtocampus.uga.edu). Units wanting additional copies of the guide should contact Sara Pauff at [spauff@uga.edu](mailto:spauff@uga.edu).

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