

## Vice President for Information Technology

### Status and Activity Report for May 2024

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

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

- *Changes to OneDrive for Business storage for students, faculty, and staff:* Microsoft has announced new storage limits for its academic customers, and as a result, UGA students, faculty, and staff will see changes to the available storage limits in their OneDrive for Business accounts. Effective August 1, 2024, OneDrive for Business storage for faculty, staff, and student accounts will be capped at 1 TB. If your storage goes over these limits, your account will go into read-only mode. You will not be able to add any more files until you move or delete old files and bring your account under the storage quota. Your UGAMail account storage will not be affected. Currently, a little over 100 users have OneDrive for Business accounts that are near or over the limit. In the coming months, EITS will notify OneDrive for Business account owners who are near or over this storage limit of 1 TB, advising them to bring their account under the limit by August 1, 2024. Microsoft also offers documentation on how to check and manage your OneDrive for Business account storage on their website at <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/manage-your-onedrive-for-work-or-school-storage-31519161-059c-4764-b6f8-f5cd29f7fe68>. For questions, please contact Justin Sackett at [justin.sackett@uga.edu](mailto:justin.sackett@uga.edu).
- *Teams Phone now available for campus units:* EITS is now offering Teams Phone, a cloud-based next-generation phone system provided by Microsoft. Teams Phone allows UGA employees to communicate and collaborate anytime, anywhere, on any device. Teams Phone integrates seamlessly with the Microsoft Teams application on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device, so all your calls, chats, calendar invites and meetings can be accessed in one place. Over the coming months, EITS Telephone Services will work with interested campus units and departments to transition their telephone numbers to Teams Phone. For more information, contact Jeff Teasley at [jteasley@uga.edu](mailto:jteasley@uga.edu).

#### 2. Services for Students

- *OIR partners with Veterans Resource Center to help student veterans:* In the last year, the Office of Institutional Research has partnered with UGA's Student Veterans Resource Center to develop data tools to help students with connections to the military. OIR staff created on-demand, self-serve reports that allow the Center to identify in near real time students who are eligible for veterans benefits. These reports help the Center better communicate and engage with eligible students. Using these tools, the Center has been able to double the number of student veterans they serve, as well as increase the scholarships awarded from \$261K to \$344K annually in the past year. These efforts have contributed to UGA being recognized as a top-ranked military-friendly institution by Viqtory Media several years running.
- *Notices sent to graduating students about MyIDs:* 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 a student's last enrollment date at 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 Spring and Summer 2024 semesters. Account owners will receive a notice on May 8 with additional communication being provided through social media, and through The Stall Street Journal. 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 schools, 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/).

- *Work continues on more than \$1M in campus wireless upgrades:* Work is under way on more wireless upgrades in academic buildings and student housing across the Athens, Buckhead, and Griffin campuses. These upgrades are part of EITS's work to continuously improve Wi-Fi connectivity and coverage to support teaching, learning, and student life. The \$1.2 million a year project, funded by Student Technology Fees, includes wireless refreshments and redesigns in many buildings. Wireless upgrades have been recently completed for the J.W. Fanning and Fine Arts buildings. Technicians are also working on more improvements to other buildings and wireless spaces across campus; work for phase three is under way and expected to be completed next summer. For more information, contact David Stewart at [stewart@uga.edu](mailto:stewart@uga.edu).

### 3. Services for Researchers

- *GACRC replaces Lustre storage appliance to improve data-intensive and AI computational workflows:* The Georgia Advanced Computing Resource Center recently replaced an aging Lustre storage appliance, purchased in early 2018, that was used as a scratch filesystem on the Sapelo2 research cluster. The replacement storage was funded by a \$1.5M investment by the Office of the Provost to support the Presidential Hiring Initiative in AI and Data Science. The new storage appliance hosts two storage tiers linked through data moving servers, a 1.8 PetaBytes tier (usable) of flash memory and an 8.0 PetaBytes tier (usable) of spinning hard drives. This hybrid configuration shows improved performance of data-intensive and AI computational workflows which were previously impacted by the legacy storage. For more information, contact Dr. Guy Cormier at [gcormier@uga.edu](mailto:gcormier@uga.edu).
- *GACRC offers office hours:* The GACRC is offering open in-person office hours at several convenient locations on campus to assist users with using GACRC's resources. GACRC staff will be available to help with questions related to users' data management, computational workflows, job troubleshooting and optimization, etc. Specific locations and a schedule will be posted monthly at GACRC's wiki page: [https://wiki.gacrc.uga.edu/wiki/Georgia\\_Advanced\\_Computing\\_Resource\\_Center](https://wiki.gacrc.uga.edu/wiki/Georgia_Advanced_Computing_Resource_Center) . These drop-in office hours are open to all and are intended to complement GACRC's regular consultation services. For more information, contact Dr. Guy Cormier at [gcormier@uga.edu](mailto:gcormier@uga.edu).

### 4. Other General Services

- *Mission-Critical systems inventory begins soon:* The University System of Georgia (USG) requires an inventory of "Mission-Critical" systems every fiscal year. The inventory process requires the assistance of UGA's Departmental Network Liaisons (DNLs) in reviewing and identifying critical systems by marking them correctly in the IP

Management System (proteus.uga.edu). The USG IT handbook defines a Mission-Critical system as “a system which contains confidential or sensitive data” or “serves a critical and necessary function for daily operations.” The inventory process will begin May 7. If you are a DNL, please review systems in Proteus to ensure you have accurate information. Please keep in mind any new systems you may have implemented or decommissioned in the past year. Please appropriately document those changes in Proteus. You must complete this process by May 24. For more information, contact Ben Myers at [bmyers@uga.edu](mailto:bmyers@uga.edu).

- *Retiree MyID Account Review under way:* UGA retirees are currently able to keep their UGA MyID and UGAMail for to access some UGA resources after retiring. UGA retirees who have not accessed their account for a year or more will have their accounts deactivated. This practice reduces the potential risk of inappropriate use of UGA retiree accounts and better reduces IT security risk. Starting in May and continuing through the summer, retirees with inactive accounts will receive notices and several reminders prior to deactivation. If Retirees wish to keep their MyID and UGAMail active, they will have the opportunity to log in and have their account excluded from deactivation. Inactive retiree accounts will be deactivated on July 31 and deleted on August 30. Information about the process can be found on our MyID account removal page: [https://eits.uga.edu/access\\_and\\_security/myid/myid\\_account\\_removal/#Faculty%20and%20Staff](https://eits.uga.edu/access_and_security/myid/myid_account_removal/#Faculty%20and%20Staff) For questions, contact Stacy Boyles at [stacy.boyles@uga.edu](mailto:stacy.boyles@uga.edu).
- *EITS system clean-ups planned for this summer:* This summer, EITS will conduct various system clean-ups to ensure continued security and remove former users no longer associated with the university. A LinkedIn Learning clean-up is planned, as well as a Zoom student account reset. The LinkedIn Learning clean-up will remove users from the system that are no longer associated with LinkedIn Learning. The Zoom student account reset is run annually to ensure that EITS can provide Zoom licenses to all active students in the fall. More information will be available soon.
- *Prepare for fall network maintenance:* EITS plans to conduct the next biannual network maintenance on Sunday, September 29. These biannual network maintenances are necessary to continue to support the network, allowing EITS to provide ample bandwidth and Internet capacity to the University in the future. These large network maintenances are typically conducted in the spring and fall of each year, during which campus Internet and campus information systems are usually inaccessible. For questions, contact Rayid Tartir at [rayid@uga.edu](mailto:rayid@uga.edu).
- *Web standard hosting decommission deadline set for May 14:* Web Standard Hosting, the free webhosting service for UGA-affiliated departments and student organizations will be decommissioned on May 14, 2024. Accounts that were unresponsive during this process and have been inactive for 2 or more years were deactivated on December 1, 2023. The Systems Engineering team will continue to work with users who still use Web Standard Hosting as their primary web hosting service to move to a new service before the end of the semester. All users must be off Web Standard Hosting by May 14. For more information, contact Ashley Henry at [ashenry@uga.edu](mailto:ashenry@uga.edu).

## 5. Did you know?

- *Fall 2023 Factbook available this month:* The Fall 2023 UGA Factbook is available on the [OIR website this month](#). This book is an important part of UGA history with prior entries dating back to 1969. The UGA Factbook provides admission information, enrollment

trends, employment and financial metrics, and student outcome data. All previous Factbook copies are available to view on the OIR website at <https://oir.uga.edu/factbook/>.

- *EITS participates in orientation:* This summer, EITS will participate in UGA's Student Resources Fair at orientation sessions for first-year and transfer students. At this event, we will answer questions and provide information to incoming students about campus technology as they begin their journey at the University of Georgia. In addition to speaking directly with students and their guests at orientation, we have a multitude of informational materials to help guide them, including the 2024- 2025 Student Guide; promotional signage and cards for ArchPass, Phishing, Getting Connected, the UGA Mobile App, Software, Tech Lending; and instructions for guests at orientation on how to get connected to UGA Visitor Wi-Fi. For more information for new students, visit [newtocampus.uga.edu](http://newtocampus.uga.edu)

*University of Georgia students, faculty, and staff, as well as interested others, may subscribe to this monthly report by sending an email to [listserv@listserv.uga.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.uga.edu) with the phrase subscribe vpit-news as the body of the message.*