

## Vice President for Information Technology Status and Activity Report for March 2024

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

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

- *2024 UGA Technology Survey to be Administered:* The Vice President for Information Technology will administer the annual TechQual survey for UGA students, faculty, and staff this semester. The campus-wide survey will be sent to a random sampling of students and employees. They will be asked to gauge the effectiveness of several technology services at the University, such as network connectivity, websites, administrative systems, and wireless service. The results of the TechQual survey are used to guide future IT initiatives at the University. For more information, contact Stacy Boyles at [stacy.boyles@uga.edu](mailto:stacy.boyles@uga.edu).

### 2. Services for Students

- *Work continues on more than \$1M in campus wireless upgrades:* Work is underway 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 Correll Hall, Moore-Rooker Hall, Amos Hall, Benson Hall and Orkin Hall, as well as Cobb House, the Office of Service Learning, Treanor House and the Office of Global Engagement. Wireless upgrade work is ongoing in Ivester Hall and the J.W. Fanning Building. 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 buy-in program available for Fy24:* The Vice President for Information Technology is continuing a program to encourage faculty to use the new cluster for the Georgia Advanced Computing Resource Center (GACRC). This program was offered in FY23 and has been extended to FY24 with an additional \$250,000 commitment from the Vice President for Information Technology. For more information, including details about the buy-in program, please contact Dr. Guy Cormier, Director of Research Computing, at [gcormier@uga.edu](mailto:gcormier@uga.edu).

### 4. Other General Services

- *Web standard hosting decommission deadline set for May 14:* Web Standard Hosting, the free webhosting service for UGA-affiliated departments and student organizations was sunset in 2023 and will be decommissioned in 2024. Accounts that were unresponsive during this process and have been inactive for 2 or more years were deactivated on December 1, 2023. Over the next months, 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).

- *Review, update your DNLs by April 12:* To ensure every school, college and unit has designated contacts for network and security incidents, EITS conducts an annual audit of Departmental Network Liaisons (DNLs). DNLs are IT professionals within a school, college, or unit who serve as the primary contact with EITS for network and security related issues. Vice presidents, deans, department heads, and IT directors will receive a memo in March asking them to review the assigned DNLs for their department and make any necessary changes by completing the Departmental Network Liaisons (DNL) form at [itsupport.uga.edu](https://itsupport.uga.edu). Confirmation that DNL lists are accurate with no changes can be sent to [infosec@uga.edu](mailto:infosec@uga.edu). Departments will have until April 12 to complete the audit in compliance with the University System of Georgia policies. EITS will conduct an online training session for all DNLs on Friday, April 19 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, please contact Ben Myers at [bmyers@uga.edu](mailto:bmyers@uga.edu).
- *Automated student MyID clean-up process kicks off this month:* EITS has automated the clean-up process for student MyIDs. This automated process runs once a semester; students who left the university or graduated more than a year ago will have their MyIDs and UGAMail addresses flagged for disablement and deletion. Alumni and former students who have their accounts flagged will receive two automated emails to their UGAMail address, alerting them that their account will be disabled and deleted soon. Account holders who are currently employed by UGA or are attending UGA for another degree program will not have their accounts removed. The automated clean-up kicked off in February, with notices to affected users; accounts will be disabled in early April. For questions, contact Kristi Wall at [kristi.wall@uga.edu](mailto:kristi.wall@uga.edu).
- *Financial Management System, OneUSG Connect maintenance set for March 8-12:* Both OneUSG Connect and the Financial Management System will be taken offline for maintenance to implement important system updates between Friday, March 8, and Tuesday, March 12. The Financial Management System (FMS) will be taken offline to undergo maintenance starting at 5 p.m. on Friday, March 8 and will be available for use by 7 a.m. on Tuesday, March 12. OneUSG Connect will be taken offline to undergo maintenance starting at 11:15 p.m. on Friday, March 8 and will be available for use by noon on Tuesday, March 12. During this scheduled maintenance, the system will be unavailable. While updates may be completed early, please prepare for the possibility of these two systems being unavailable on Monday, March 11. Users should complete their work for the day prior to 5 p.m. on Friday, March 8. During the downtime period, check [status.uga.edu](https://status.uga.edu) for the latest updates on system availability. Additional information on these updates is available [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact the OneSource Service Desk at [onesource@uga.edu](mailto:onesource@uga.edu) or 706-542-0202 (option 2).
- *FY24 user access verification kicks off March 27:* In preparation for the financial state audit for FY24, EITS will conduct a verification of all user accounts for several systems. Verification will kick off March 27 and will include Banner systems, the UGA Financial Management System, the UGA Budget Management System, OneUSG Connect and UGAJobs. On March 27, users with certain levels of access to these systems will receive emails, asking them to verify their access. Supervisors will also need to review and decide to approve or deny access for employees under their purview. All verification processes will be conducted in TeamDynamix and must be completed by May 2. For more information about the user verification process, please contact Sara Pauff at [spauff@uga.edu](mailto:spauff@uga.edu).

- *New WordPress hosting solution now available:* The EITS Web and Mobile team is introducing a new direct-billed WordPress solution to replace the existing Omni CMS platform, previously known as OmniUpdate, which has been provided to campus units since 2015. The newly selected vendor for hosting of EITS-supported UGA WordPress websites is Kaptiv8, an Athens website design and hosting firm. We are working with current Omni CMS clients to discuss timelines and details for the transition of Omni CMS web pages into the Kaptiv8 environment and working with new clients interested in this WordPress hosting option. Information, including billing for this service can be found at: [https://eits.uga.edu/web\\_and\\_applications/wordpress\\_content\\_management\\_system/](https://eits.uga.edu/web_and_applications/wordpress_content_management_system/). For more information, please contact David Crouch at [dave@uga.edu](mailto:dave@uga.edu).
- *Prepare for Boyd Data Center UPS maintenance activities:* EITS will conduct maintenances on March 23 and March 30 at the Boyd Data Center in efforts for the UPS system replacement. Information Technology System Owners may elect to shut down non-essential systems in the Boyd Data Center during these maintenances. Those who have questions should contact either Jeff Teasley at [jteasley@uga.edu](mailto:jteasley@uga.edu) or Chris Fleming at [cfleming@uga.edu](mailto:cfleming@uga.edu).

## 5. Did You Know

- *EITS participates in annual Staff Resources Fair:* EITS is proud to announce its participation in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Staff Resources Fair. This event will take place on Tuesday, March 5, in the Grand Hall of the Tate Center from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This event is a wonderful opportunity for staff of UGA to engage with departments across campus and learn about their respective resources and opportunities. Last year alone, the Resource Fair had more than 16 sponsors and supporters, 40 exhibitors and more than 500 participants. Visit the EITS booth at the fair to learn about the array of tools for staff, including UGAMail, MyIDs, wireless networks, technical assistance and much more. This event is the perfect opportunity for you to discover the range of resources EITS provides for staff of UGA, engage with our employees, and grab some giveaway items. For more information about IT resources for staff, visit [newtocampus.uga.edu](http://newtocampus.uga.edu).

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