

Vice President for Information Technology Status and Activity Report for October

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

1. Key Items for Faculty and Staff Meetings

- *Fall network maintenance scheduled for October 24:* EITS plans to conduct a network maintenance on October 24, 2020. 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. We typically conduct large network maintenances twice a year, during which campus Internet and campus information systems are usually inaccessible. For questions, contact Jeff Farese at jeffrey.farese@uga.edu.
- *Fall cybersecurity training required by October 30:* University System of Georgia employees must complete fall cybersecurity awareness training by October 30. This required training takes place twice a year in April and October per USG policy and is a directive by the executive order of Governor Brian Kemp. The cybersecurity training takes about 20 minutes to complete and is available through the Professional Education Portal (PEP), <http://pep.uga.edu/>. Cybersecurity awareness training is a critical tool in the University System's efforts to help keep critical data and sensitive information safe and secure. Faculty, staff and student employees who have questions about accessing the USG Cybersecurity Awareness Training in the PEP should contact the Human Resources Service Desk at (706) 542-2222 or e-mail at hrweb@uga.edu. For more information, contact Ben Myers at bmyers@uga.edu.

2. Services for Students

- *Updated look and feel coming to Banner, Athena:* UGA uses Banner, launched in 2014, for its Student Information System. Over the next academic year, EITS and Student Administrative Departments will deliver incremental major updates to the system. The changes will include a fresh look and feel, a more streamlined user experience, new modules and feature enhancements. As changes are developed, information will be shared with the university community, including faculty, staff and advisors via the ConnectUGA website, <https://connectuga.uga.edu/>.

3. Support for Teaching Faculty

- *New Zoom admin feature ensures greater security:* Beginning November 2020, Zoom will introduce a new admin feature to increase meeting security. This new admin feature will be “Off” by default, but it is highly recommended that [Zoom Unit Administrators](#) enable it. Enabling this feature will ensure all meetings have applied at least one of the following security settings: a Passcode, a Waiting Room, or an option where “Only authenticated users can join.” Enabling one or more of these settings ensures greater security for your Zoom sessions and helps prevent unwanted users from joining your meetings. For more information, contact Bret Jamieson at bret.jamieson@uga.edu.
- *Tips for recording videos in Zoom, uploading to Kaltura:* There are several items in the Recordings section in your Zoom settings that can provide more effective video recordings and help with uploading Zoom recordings to Kaltura. To help optimize the size of the video to a standard format, regardless of the size of your camera, select “Optimize for 3rd party video editor.” Zoom also has options to record several different files. Be sure to

check the type of cloud recording you have selected. It is recommended that you only choose one recording option: record gallery view with shared screen or record active speaker with shared screen. It is also recommended not to choose “Record an audio-only file” as Kaltura automatically does this when it processes the video file. If you need help, visit our Help Desk site:

<https://confluence.eits.uga.edu/display/HK/Zoom+Recording+Tips>

- *Blackboard Collaborate to be decommissioned, replaced by Zoom:* Blackboard Collaborate will be decommissioned December 31. After this date, Zoom will be the primary web conferencing solution available to instructors within eLearning Commons (eLC). During the fall 2020 semester, instructors who need to incorporate web conferencing into their courses in eLC may use Zoom or they may continue to use Blackboard Collaborate. After December 31, Blackboard Collaborate will no longer be available and Zoom will be the supported web conferencing tool within eLC. Saved recordings of Blackboard Collaborate sessions will also not be available for viewing or download after December 31. Users are encouraged to download saved recordings from Collaborate and upload them to Kaltura for sharing or long-term storage. For more information and project updates visit our information page: https://eits.uga.edu/learning_and_training/collaborate_decomm/.

4. Support for Researchers

- *GACRC updating workload manager:* As was previously announced, the Georgia Advanced Computing Resource Center (GACRC) is working to migrate Sapelo2’s workflow manager to a more advanced and capable one called Slurm. GACRC has scheduled an extended Sapelo2 maintenance starting on October 24 at 6 a.m. to switch its queuing system from Torque/Moab to Slurm and to update its operating system. The tentative end of the scheduled maintenance is October 28 at 5 p.m. Any Sapelo2 jobs still running when the maintenance begins at 6 a.m. on October 24 will be terminated. Once this maintenance is complete, Sapelo2 will run Slurm and a new software environment. Therefore, job submission scripts and workflows based on Torque/Moab and the software packages currently installed on Sapelo2 will no longer work. Only the software packages currently installed on the GACRC’s Slurm test cluster will be available on the upgraded Sapelo2 cluster, after the maintenance. To help users familiarize with Slurm and the upgraded cluster environment, GACRC staff have prepared training videos available on the GACRC's Kaltura channel at <https://kaltura.uga.edu/channel/GACRC/176125031> (log in with MyID and password is required). Migration training workshops are also available on the GACRC wiki at <https://wiki.gacrc.uga.edu/wiki/Training>. Documentation facilitating the Slurm transition is also available on the GACRC wiki. For more information, contact Dr. Guy Cormier at gcormier@uga.edu.

5. Support for Staff and Administrators

- *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 2020 Departmental MyID verification process will kick off October 27 and conclude November 24. On October 27, all

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. 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.

- *Changes coming to Microsoft Teams recording settings:* During the first half of November, Microsoft is rolling out a change to all of their environments that will set the default save location for recorded meetings to be the recorder's Microsoft OneDrive. You will still have the option in your recording settings at that time to select other save locations. In early 2021, Microsoft will permanently remove the ability to save Microsoft Teams recordings into the Microsoft Stream service; new recordings at that time will automatically save to the recorder's Microsoft OneDrive. For more information, contact Jonathan Hardy at jhardy66@uga.edu.
- *Update your iOS to receive updates to Outlook on your iPhone or tablet:* With the release of iOS14 for iPhones and iPads, Microsoft is changing the minimum iOS system requirements for updates to Outlook for iOS and watchOS. Outlook for iOS is supported on the two most recent versions of iOS, and Microsoft is preparing to remove support for older versions. This means that phones older than an iPhone 6s and any iOS devices running iOS 12 or older will no longer receive Outlook app updates. Additionally, Microsoft will remove support for watchOS 4 and 5. WatchOS 6 and 7 will be the only supported versions for Apple Watch. At this time, customers will be able to continue using older versions of the app. Over time, Outlook for iOS on iOS 12 devices will eventually stop synchronizing email and calendar data, unless they have a supported version of iOS. This change does not affect anyone using Outlook for iOS on iOS 13 or above, or Android users. For questions, contact Ashley Henry at ashenry@uga.edu.
- *Financial Management System Annual Upgrade planned for November:* The annual PeopleSoft Upgrade Manager (PUM) will be applied on Saturday, November 7. The UGA Financial Management System will be unavailable starting at 6 p.m. on Friday, November 6. The system is expected to be back online Monday morning, November 9. Included in this year's updates will be a refreshed look and feel that more closely resembles the Fluid user interface across all pages. Page navigation will remain the same and will be intuitive to follow.

6. Other General Services

- *MyID accounts with noncompliant passwords to be reset in December:* As part of the UGA community, it is our duty to have strong passwords for our UGA accounts. Strong passwords keep you and everyone at UGA safer from cyber criminals trying to steal information. The UGA password standard is 10 or more characters, including complex numbers and characters (capital and lower case). About 850 UGA MyID accounts have passwords which do not follow this standard. Owners for these noncompliant accounts will receive several notices this semester asking them to update to a password in compliance with the UGA password standard. Account owners will have until December 21, 2020 to update their password. After this date, any accounts with noncompliant password will undergo a forced reset. In addition, about 100 MyID account owners with passwords which meet the UGA password standard but are easily cracked will receive an educational notice this month advising them they may wish to update to a stronger password. For more information, please contact Lance Peiper at lpeiper@uga.edu.

7. Did You Know

- October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM). Cybersecurity is important because the University of Georgia remains a target for hackers, who attempt to infiltrate our networks and ransom critical data. These attacks rely on human interaction to succeed, so it is vital that all students, faculty and staff remain vigilant. Here are some tips to help you ensure you're staying secure while working, teaching and learning online:
 - [Know the signs of a phishing email](#)
 - [Use strong passwords and security questions](#)
 - [Use multi-factor authentication](#)
 - [Protect your data](#)
 - [Protect your computer](#)

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