

EITS Status and Activity Report for October 2014

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

1. Announcements for Faculty and Staff Meetings

- *SecureUGA Awareness Training, Online Modules to Begin:* Starting this fall, the University will launch SecureUGA, a security awareness and training module program. The University System of Georgia requires all employees and contractors at USG institutions to complete annual security awareness training. SecureUGA helps University employees understand, identify, and act appropriately to information security threats. SecureUGA is an online, self-paced security awareness program that was last offered University-wide for current employees in 2012. Employees who have previously completed SecureUGA have the option to complete a brief refresher module, take the opt-out quiz, or complete the online modules about sensitive data, workplace security, password protection, and computer viruses. SecureUGA is being updated to feature a new design and modules. For more information, please contact Brian Rivers at brivers@uga.edu by email or point a web browser to <http://secure.uga.edu>.
- *OneDrive for Business Now Available:* The University's license with Microsoft for its Office 365 platform now includes OneDrive for Business, which allows people to store, share, edit, and collaborate on files with others. OneDrive for Business is available to all UGA students, faculty, and staff as part of their institutional account for UGAMail. OneDrive for Business is different from OneDrive, which is available with a Microsoft consumer account. OneDrive for Business is a cloud-based service that allows files to be synced across multiple devices and shared with multiple people. It also features 1 TB of file storage for each individual with an account. OneDrive for Business is accessible via any web browser upon logging in to UGAMail. Based on your device's operating system, there is also a desktop client and apps that can be installed to use OneDrive for Business to sync files. For more information, including how to use OneDrive for Business, please point a web browser to <http://office365.uga.edu>.

2. Support for Student Technology Services

- *Designated Inactive eLC Courses to be Deleted:* The University System of Georgia is deleting designated inactive courses in eLearning Commons (eLC) in an effort to be good stewards of data resources and to maintain a robust system for active courses. The affected courses had been migrated from eLC-old (powered by Blackboard Vista) to eLC-new (powered Desire2Learn). They are now marked with the prefix "DELETE." Owners of affected courses were notified of their courses marked for deletion on September 15. On November 3, those courses will be deleted by the USG. Prior to that, impacted course owners can decide if they want to keep the content in those courses. They have several options, which are outlined on the Center for Teaching and Learning's website by visiting <http://ctl.uga.edu/elc/migrated-courses-removal>. Impacted course owners will receive several reminders of the November 3 deadline. For more information, please contact Sherry Clouser at sac@uga.edu by email.
- *UGA Mobile App Now in Google Play & App Store:* The official UGA mobile app is now available for Android in Google Play. The existing iOS app, which is available in the App Store, has also been updated. The most popular feature of the mobile app is the ability to view buses as they travel the Athens campus. This feature allows users to know when particular buses are arriving at each bus stop. The UGA mobile app also features an

updated map that allows users to drop pins for specific points of interest, such as buildings, computer labs, parking decks, and print kiosks. EITS is continuing to work with units throughout the University for additional features on the mobile app for future updates. For more information, please point a web browser at <http://mobileapps.uga.edu>.

- *Free Laptop Security Checkups Available on October 15:* EITS will hold its fall Computer Health and Security Fair on Wednesday, October 15, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Miller Learning Center in the second floor rotunda. UGA students, faculty, and staff are welcomed to bring their personal laptops for security checks by technical volunteers. Technical volunteers will provide free virus and malware removal, and offer security consultations and checkups to ensure that personal laptops are using the latest software and plug-ins. EITS holds this event in the fall and spring. For more information, please point a web browser at <http://eits.uga.edu>.

3. Support for Academic and Administrative Computing

- *WebDFS to Require ArchPass Authentication:* People who are authorized to use WebDFS, a system used by departments for financial data, will require ArchPass authentication, starting at 5 p.m. on October 31. The ArchPass is a method of two-factor authentication that requires authorized users to not only have a password to access specified systems, but also to possess a physical device that provides an access code. WebDFS will be the next system to require ArchPass authentication. EITS will be notifying individuals who will require ArchPass authentication to access WebDFS and will be distributing ArchPass devices to those people who need them. For more information, please contact Brian Rivers at brivers@uga.edu or point a web browser to <http://archpass.uga.edu>.

4. Support for Research

- *Buy-In Program Available for New Cluster:* To encourage faculty use of the new cluster for the Georgia Advanced Computing Resources Center (GACRC), the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology is offering a matching program for an additional computing node at no cost, to match the ones purchased through the options available in this buy-in program. A total of \$100,000 will be made available through the program in FY15 and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The GACRC is currently installing a major new cluster that will provide additional computational and storage services for researchers throughout the University. For more information, including specifics about the buy-in program, please contact Guy Cormier at gcormier@uga.edu by email.
- *New Members Named for GACRC Advisory Committee:* The Georgia Advanced Computing Resource Center (GACRC) Advisory Committee recently named its new members. They are: Tianming Liu in Computer Science, and Natarajan Kannan in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Peter Kner in the College of Engineering was reinstated as a committee member and chairperson. Thomas Mote in Geography was named a new ex-officio member. Thiab Taha, Computer Science, was named a past ex-officio member, while Jonathan Arnold, Genetics, and Jim Leebens-Mack, Plant Sciences, were named past committee members and were thanked for their service to the GACRC Advisory Committee. For more information, please contact Guy Cormier at gcormier@uga.edu by email.

- *Galaxy Workshop for Researchers Available:* The Georgia Advanced Computing Resources Center (GACRC) is co-sponsoring a workshop this fall about Galaxy, a web-based platform for data-intensive bioinformatics. The day-long workshop will introduce participants to Galaxy, including how to construct and share workflows, and how to use the Galaxy Tool Shed and local Galaxy instance. The workshop will be held on October 17, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Paul D. Coverdell Center, room S175. The class is free, but limited to the first 70 participants. For more information, or to register, please point a web browser to <http://qbcg.uga.edu/galaxy-workshop>. The workshop is also sponsored by the Institute of Bioinformatics and Quantitative Biology Consulting Group.

5. Core Campus Infrastructure

- *Subsidy Available for Faculty, Staff Areas to Access Wireless Network:* In order to expand faculty and staff access to the PAWS-Secure wireless network, the Office for the Vice President for Information Technology is offering a 50% subsidy towards installation of new PAWS-Secure wireless access. The University offers PAWS-Secure throughout the campus to areas primarily used by students through funds provided by the Student Technology Fee. For faculty and staff areas, wireless service is charged to departments. To qualify for a subsidy, PAWS-Secure must be in areas primarily used by faculty and staff offices, or in meeting and collaboration spaces. A total of \$100,000 is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Departments should request a quote for PAWS-Secure wireless service by using the form available at <https://eits.uga.edu/support/request/cable>. After a quote is received from EITS, it should be forwarded to the VPIT office with a memo seeking a 50% subsidy. For more information about this program, please contact Mike Lucas at mlucas@uga.edu by email.
- *October 31 Deadline Approaching for Departmental Network Transition:* EITS is working with units to transition the University's networks from a legacy IP address management system to a new system called BlueCat, which, when configured, allows users to self-register their computers to wired networks. EITS has been offering BlueCat training for IT professionals, while outlining plans to transition departments to the new system by an October 31 deadline. After that time, changes will not be allowed on the current IP address management system, which will be decommissioned in December. EITS is continuing to assist departments to meet the October 31 deadline. For more information about BlueCat, please contact Brian Rivers at brivers@uga.edu by email.
- *Improved Internet Service for Research Facilities:* EITS is planning to upgrade the network bandwidth for several research facilities this fall. The building networks scheduled to be upgraded this fall include Life Sciences, Veterinary Medicine, and Psychology. In addition, Driftmier was recently upgraded. EITS offers additional network services that allow departments to take full advantage of upgraded Internet service. For more information, please contact Mike Lucas at mlucas@uga.edu by email.

6. Did You Know?

- *State of Technology Presentation:* Dr. Timothy M. Chester, Vice President for Information Technology, will present his annual State of Technology at UGA presentation to several groups this fall. An open forum for all UGA students, faculty, and staff will be held on Tuesday, November 11, at 2 p.m., at the Georgia Center. Topics in the presentation will include technology trends at UGA, and how IT-related initiatives are impacting students, faculty, and staff. For more information, please send an email to vpit@uga.edu.

- Dr. Curtis A. Carver, Jr., Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer for the University System of Georgia, recently co-authored a story with Dr. Timothy M. Chester, Vice President for Information Technology at UGA, for EDUCAUSE magazine. The story focused on collaborative IT services between the USG and its 31 institutions that ensure the delivery of more-effective technology solutions at affordable costs. The story highlighted the collaborative efforts for a learning management system (called eLearning Commons at UGA), GALILEO, and efforts to unify administrative systems across the USG. The story is available on EDUCAUSE's website and may be viewed by clicking on the following link in a web browser: <http://tinyurl.com/obntbv9>.

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 with the phrase subscribe vpit-news as the body of the message.