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Campus Steps Up Computer Network Security Measures

If you were in Davis last fall, you might remember that several serious viruses—including Welchia, Blaster and MyDoom—damaged computer networks around the nation, disrupted businesses and public institutions, and posed a significant threat to the campus servers. These malicious programs, like many computer viruses, destroyed data, caused programs to stop functioning, and allowed intruders (hackers) to access users' personal data. To combat these virus threats, the campus assembled a workgroup of campus technology experts and charged them with developing a system that would prevent viruses from compromising our technology resources.

The Plan

These experts had much to consider when developing an effective plan. They knew that all the computers accessing campus computing resources were connected to a network—a community of computers connected together, through which users share files and utilize the same services. Unfortunately, one virus-infected computer participating as part of the network can infect all the other computers as well. Like a biological virus, a computer virus replicates itself and can spread from one computer to another when users exchange files. Each individual computer must be monitored and protected to keep the community of computer users safe. This challenge is compounded by the high turnover of users on the campus network. Every year, thousands of new students bring their computers to campus, introducing a multitude of computer security threats that are constantly changing and evolving. In response, the campus must continually update security systems to prepare for new computer security attacks.

The Scan

Last fall, with these challenges in mind, the workgroup developed a system that scanned individual computer systems when users tried to access the campus network. Without accessing personal files, the scanner
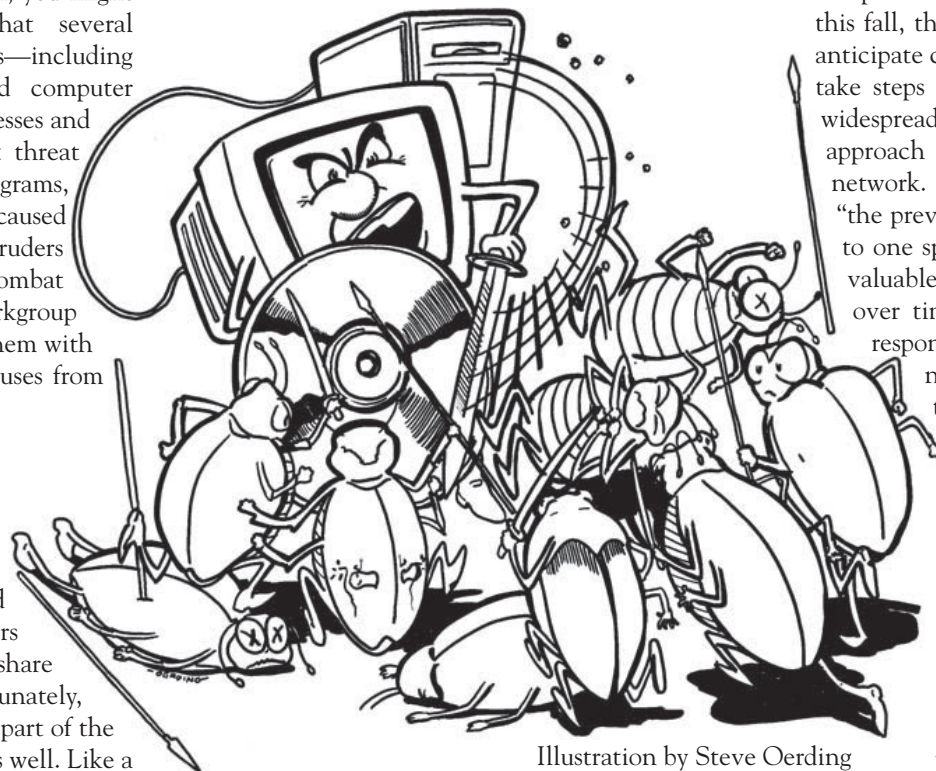

Illustration by Steve Oerding

could tell whether an individual computer system was infected with a virus or was vulnerable to infection due to a lack of computer security maintenance. Computers that were vulnerable to infection or already infected were denied access to the MyUCDavis Web portal, UC Davis email ("Geckomail"), and other campus services; instead, they were redirected to instructional content—such as links to updates and patches for their operating system—to help users remove vulnerabilities. Scanning individual computer systems before they logged on to the network allowed the campus a front line of defense to keep computers with poor security from causing further problems.

The vulnerability scanning system proved so successful that Information and Educational Technology (IET) has been working this summer with campus technology

experts to strengthen the campus' defense against computer security threats. So what's new? Beginning this fall, the campus will use a threat analysis service to anticipate critical security threats on the horizon and will take steps to defend against them before they become widespread. This means that we now have a proactive approach to maintaining the security of the campus network. Security Coordinator Bob Ono explains that "the previous scanning system was designed to respond to one specific Windows vulnerability. While initially valuable, the usefulness of this scan has diminished over time. The new system permits the campus to respond to new vulnerabilities more easily; thus, as new security issues arise, we can quickly adjust the scanner to identify computers vulnerable to the new threat. In some cases, we will be able to perform these changes before the new threat damages a large number of computers."

How it Will Effect You

Computers that are scanned for critical security vulnerabilities will receive one of three diagnoses:

• If your computer is already protected from the security threats, you will be logged on to the network as usual. You probably won't even realize your computer has been scanned.

• If your computer has minor security glitches, you won't be denied access to the network but you will see a warning page notifying you of the security risks and will suggesting that you repair the problems. You can then continue with your log on.

• If your computer is infected with a critical virus or is vulnerable to serious infection, you will be blocked from accessing the campus network. This an unfortunate side effect of being infected; however, you will be provided with a link to information or detailed instructions that will help you fix your computer and regain access to the network.

Since there is a proposed campus policy requiring computers attached to the campus computing network to be free of critical security vulnerabilities, this is

Campus Council for Information Technology (CC-FIT) Makes Campus Debut
Caroline Bledsoe Leads Council Towards More Effective Communication

It's a little-known fact that the Campus Council for Information Technology (CC-FIT) is headed by a soil microbiologist who spends a month every summer in a remote mountain cabin, drawing water from a lake, using kerosene lamps, and generally appreciating life away from television, computers, and email. But Caroline Bledsoe, a confirmed nature enthusiast, is also passionate about technology. She operates her car radio with a small remote control and loops a gigabyte flashdrive around her neck at work so she can easily reuse important files. As chair of the newly-formed CC-FIT, she uses communication skills honed as an educator to engage campus representatives as they discuss information and educational technology issues. She guides the council as it develops recommendations about which issues and projects should receive high priority campus consideration and, in some cases, campus funding.

History of the CC-FIT

CC-FIT is the newest incarnation of the Academic and Administrative Computing Councils (more commonly known as AC4 and AdC3), two groups created in 1998 to advise the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor on matters related to administrative and academic computing. As someone who has been involved with campus IT committees for over a decade, Bledsoe has watched CC-FIT slowly flower from the seed of earlier committees. Under Bledsoe's leadership last year, AC4 and AdC3 members formally acknowledged that information technology did not separate so easily into academic and administrative categories—indeed, they are increasingly interconnected. Following a series of combined meetings held on a trial basis throughout the 2003-04 academic year, the two groups decided last Spring to combine formally into one council, CC-FIT, and to adopt a new charge. "I think that's a big accomplishment," relates Bledsoe.

A Unique Role

CC-FIT is poised to play a unique and critical role on campus. By bringing together students, staff, faculty, deans, vice-provosts, and vice-chancellors in technology-focused discussions, Bledsoe expects the Council will foster ongoing dialogue and encourage the sharing of ideas and perspectives among groups not commonly seen at the same meeting table—groups such as ASUCD, the Graduate Student Association, Staff Assembly, the Academic Senate, the Academic Federation, and key campus administrative units. Dialogue between such entities is becoming increasingly

Andy Jones
CC-FIT Academic Federation Representative
Lecturer and Academic Coordinator,
University Writing Program

I really love serving on CC-FIT. As someone who represents both the Academic Federation and teachers (I chair the CC-FIT Education Technology Subcommittee), I must speak up for two important constituencies. As a result, I do my homework, engage with all the decision-makers around the long table in 203 Mrak, and really feel like I am contributing to IET policy at UC Davis. Because I also help to train English Department and University Writing Program faculty on computer-aided instruction issues, my CC-FIT experiences come in handy when I am explaining IET policies, or connecting a classroom practice to the IET vision of the university.

Brenda Ruth
CC-FIT AdMAN Representative
Management Services Officer,
Department of Psychology

CC-FIT's role in making recommendations about new or existing campus technology can be vital—especially when there is the opportunity to enhance, support, or eliminate redundancy in staff workload. AdMAN Board Representatives share with their colleges or divisions upcoming or proposed changes to IET as discussed in the CC-FIT meetings and solicit staff comments or concerns. AdMAN's representation on this committee is crucial because it serves as the voice for staff.

important, according to Bledsoe. In a large and diverse campus, coordination and communication between disparate groups can be very challenging: "It would be easy for tech projects to progress independently, with little or no communication about what's being developed. But what one group is planning to do might turn out to have an impact on quite a few other users, but they weren't aware of it," says Bledsoe. "We're trying to get that two-way communication going more efficiently, with the Council serving as a forum."

To make it possible for the Council to function effectively as a campus-wide coordination and communication venue, members agreed to revise their charge last spring to include an explicit expectation that each committee member act as a liaison with the constituencies they represent on the Council, identifying

ET Partners Provide One-on-One Tech Assistance to Faculty and Departments

As you survey your educational technology needs at the beginning of this school year, you may find that you want to jazz up your lectures using multimedia resources, or that you need some assistance with Gradebook or Quizbuilder in MyUCDavis. Or, if you're a department chair, you may want to tackle a large educational technology project in your department. Welcome to the Educational Technology Partners program, which pairs technology-savvy students with individual faculty members, departments, and MyUCDavis course management tools users.

ET Partners provide one-on-one assistance to individual faculty members for an entire quarter, work with whole departments until their proposed objectives are met and needs have been served, and provide ad hoc consultation to instructors who need in-depth assistance with MyUCDavis course management tools. Here's a spotlight on folks who've been using ET Partners and the new services the program offers.

### Juana Maria Rodriguez:
Learning New Software and Short Cuts

Juana Maria Rodriguez, professor of Women and Gender Studies, signed up for an ET Partner in Spring 2004. Her goal was both clear and challenging: she wanted to integrate images, video, and text from different media sources and find a way to catalog that information. Acting on the advice of her student ET Partner, Khanh Nguyen, Rodriguez purchased a new software program, Portfolio Extensis, that helped her organize mixed media. During their weekly one-to-two hour meetings, they worked together to learn the software, troubleshoot problems, review their progress, and discuss next steps.

In addition to integrating and cataloging media, Nguyen assisted Rodriguez with programs she was already using, like MyUCDavis, PowerPoint, and Eudora. Rodriguez would come across questions, or simply wonder if there were an easier, faster, or smoother way to do something. She jotted down those questions and discussed them with her ET Partner at their meetings. Nguyen also helped Rodriguez with other technological tasks, like learning to use her new scanner/fax machine and making PDF files from the scans. "All in all, the partnership went very smoothly," comments Nguyen. "We had enough time to get everything done that we had planned!"

Textiles and Clothing Department:
Bringing Faculty and Images Up to Speed

Because they operate in an image-intensive field, staff and faculty in Textiles and Clothing needed to organize

Juana Maria Rodriguez receives one-on-one assistance from student ET Partner Khanh Nguyen (below). The Textiles and Clothing database includes hundreds of images--like the one at right--that are downloadable to a variety of programs.
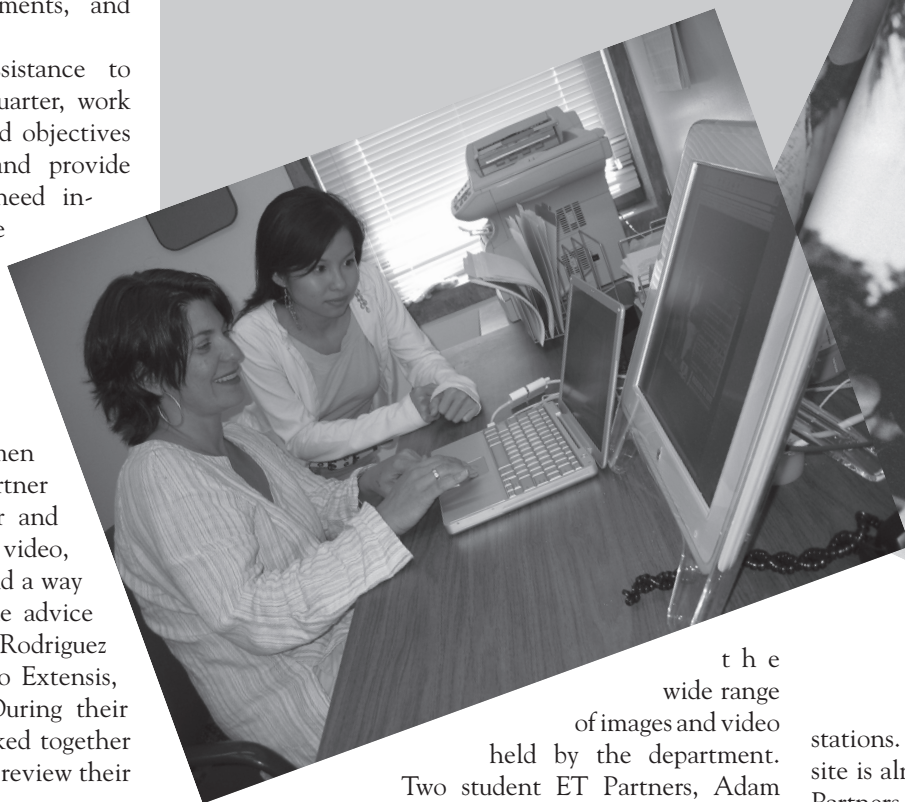
the wide range of images and video held by the department. Two student ET Partners, Adam Barr and Anuj Shah, worked with the entire department during Spring Quarter helping them utilize Almagest, an online tool that integrates images, video, sound, and text into lectures. By the end of the quarter, the department had created an online database housing hundreds of images formerly contained on slides, video tapes, CDs, and in news articles. "We now have film clips trimmed to exactly that portion needed for lecture, along with very high-quality images, PDF files, and entire Web sites in a data base searchable by keywords," proclaims Department Chair Susan Kaiser. "All these are easily accessible by students and faculty in the department, and downloadable into Powerpoint, Adobe Photoshop, or Dreamweaver."

In addition to helping develop this large image database, the Partners assisted the department with the purchase of a server and two state-of-the-art imaging stations. The server is now up and running, and the Web site is already undergoing some major revisions. The ET Partners also worked individually with faculty, staff, and students resolving persistent problems, teaching computer security, and fixing fickle Internet connections.

As a result of the ET Partners' work, Kaiser reports that the the faculty, staff, and students in the Textiles and Clothing Department have moved to a new level of 'techno-savvy.' "We still have a lot to learn," admits Kaiser, "but it all now seems much more do-able."

Barr and Shah are still working with the department to support its educational technology objectives. They're part of the Textiles and Clothing Media Team, a group of faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students who meet weekly to discuss computers and technology. Kaiser notes the influence of the ET Partners in their department: "Their professional and patient manner—along with their healthy sense of humor—contributed to the creation of an environment in which experimentation, collaboration and creativity, with respect to all things technological,

Personal Response System Revitalizes Class Participation

We all use remote controls to direct our televisions, VCRs, DVD players, and stereo systems. Now, that same infrared technology is being used to encourage student participation in the classroom. In the past, to get students to participate during a lecture, instructors might ask for a show of hands or a vocal response. The chatty students and know-it-alls were the first to answer, while other students remained quiet. It seemed impossible to get every student to voice her opinion. But with the recently developed Personal Response System, students use electronic "clickers" to voice their opinions. Instructors get responses to all their questions, and hardly anyone looks bored. This new approach to class participation was piloted on campus in Spring 2004. The trial run of the system revealed a few bugs that hindered its use, but those haven't stopped either instructors or students from giving the Personal Response System a thumbs up.

How it Works

The EduCue Personal Response System is designed to encourage every student to participate in class by way of a hand-held remote control or clicker. The instructor asks students a multiple-choice question; the students then decide their response, point their clickers at one of the small infrared boxes installed in the classroom, and click the button that corresponds to their answer choice. Software compiles the answers instantly, and a graph detailing student responses is projected onto the screen for the entire class to see.

Each student enrolled in a class using the response system purchases a clicker at the bookstore (prices range from $3-$30, depending on the vendor). Students then register their clickers at the vendor's Web site or with the professor (different vendors have different requirements) so their student ID numbers will be recognized and recorded when they answer questions. Individual responses are not displayed to the class, but are recorded for the instructor's use.

Enhancing the Learning Process

The Personal Response System has enriched the classroom experience for both instructors and students. The responses allow instructors to see if their students understand their lectures. "I can clarify things right away if they're not getting the right answers to the multiple choice questions," explains Astronomy 10 professor Lori Lubin. A second quick poll and she can confirm that everyone is on the right track, or identify whether more information is needed to clear up remaining uncertainties.

Several professors have used the system for informal surveys, while others have utilized it as a grading tool. Professor Lubin gives her students extra credit for participating in the question-and-answer sessions. Physics 9 professor David Webb uses the system to grade his students' knowledge of assigned reading materials. Land, Air, and Water Resources professor Caroline Bledsoe primarily uses the system for informal polling.

For students, the response system "breaks up the lecture," and keeps the instructor from talking the whole class period. "It keeps me awake most of the time," says sophmore Guadalupe Reyes, "because sometimes I'm just waiting to click!" She adds, "I hope it's used all over campus in the near future." Some instructors speculate there has been a higher rate of attendance since they began using the system—and a definite increase in class participation.

Availability of the Response System on Campus

Although the Personal Response System is not yet ready for large-scale campus implementation, it has been met with acclaim by students and instructors. The Physics, Astronomy, and Political Science departments will use the system in a few Fall Quarter classes. Systems are installed in two classrooms in Roessler Hall, and one classroom in Olson Hall. Instructors interested in learning more about the pros and cons of using a Personal Response System in their classes should contact Tor Cross of the Teaching Resources Center at (530) 752-6050. ◘

Goodbye Paper, Hello Web: Employee History Reports now Online

Collaborative Campus Project a Big Resource Saver

The days of having to use paper file cards or search through multiple computer windows to get employee history information are rapidly fading. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of several groups, campus departments can now quickly review online reports detailing the hire, separation, leave of absence, and salary changes of their employees. This new business tool saves significant amounts of time for both the central offices producing the reports and for staff who need to access the data found within them.

The online Employee History reports, initially developed for Human Resources by the Payroll/Personnel Decision Support team, were tested in January 2004 by representatives from the campus central offices, deans' offices, and departments. Following a period of review and refinement, the history reports were opened in June 2004 to all approved representatives on campus and at the UC Davis Medical Center.

The Way It Used to Be

In the past, department staff members had to rely upon their manually maintained paper files of record changes. Although some Employee History information was online via the Payroll/Personnel System (PPS), there was no simple way to reconstruct this data. Linda Durst, Project Manager for Payroll/Personnel Decision Support explains: "If a staff member or administrator were interested in learning the job history of a staff employee (e.g. dates, job titles, and amounts of merit increases), she would have to go through multiple files and screens and piece together the information on paper."

For Human Resources, the old process also required significant resources. To ensure that employees were compensated properly and that changes were handled according to policy, procedure and/or union contract, compiled history data for each employee was kept primarily on paper file cards (called "cardineers"). These cardineers then had to be verified and updated each time employee information was modified in the Payroll/Personnel System. As can be imagined, the sheer number of these modifications (called "Post Authorization Notifications") created a logistical logjam.

Faster, Easier, More Precise

To deal with this challenge, Human Resources worked with the Payroll/Personnel System Decision Support team to develop a series of Employee History reports that allow both Human Resources and individual departments to easily access and verify this information online. Staff now no longer need to dig through marked-up report hardcopies or scroll through multiple screens to track down the exact information they needed. "Using these pre-formatted PPS reports, authorized staff can now pull up a vast selection of information on an as-needed basis," says Kim Osmonson, an Analyst with Human Resources in the Office of Administration.

Future Sees Increased Use of Online Reports, UC Campuses Sharing Knowledge

According to Durst, these Employee History reports are only the latest example of the usefulness of online reports. Several existing monthly reports detailing personnel actions and payroll expenses have been moved online. While comprehensive and accurate, these previously printed reports were often unwieldy (some approached 1000 pages) and required significant parsing to find specific data. Online access has also allowed the campus to cut back on the printing and mailing of reports, conserving large amounts of paper and other resources. "We are very fortunate to have IET's technical expertise at our disposal," shares Osmonson.

As staff usage of such reports continues to increase, the shift toward online access is well on its way. More than 20 additional related reports have already been targeted to move from print to online. "Over the last two years, there has been a 15% average growth rate in both the number of active users as well as report usage," says Durst. "This past fiscal year, over 1100 campus and medical center employees ran more than 243,000 online reports, many of which would previously have been printed."
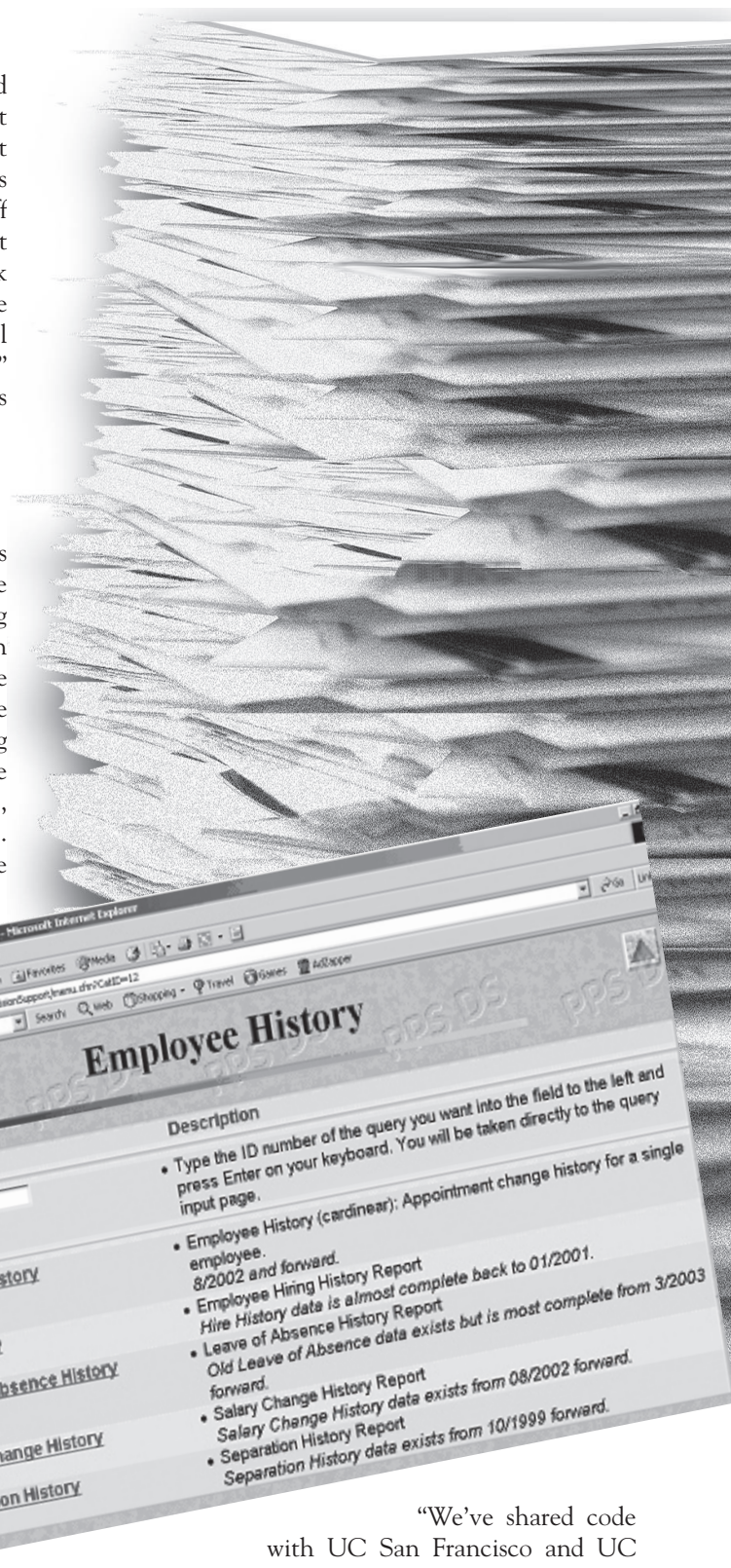
Several UC campuses are now working together to share code for creating these useful reports. "We can collaborate because all the campuses use the same Payroll/Personnel System," relays Durst.

"We've shared code with UC San Francisco and UC Santa Cruz, and plan to assist UC Merced as it continues to develop."

These reports and many others are available to authorized users through MyUCDavis, the campus Web portal (click on the "MyOffice" tab at http://my.ucdavis.edu/). Staff members are encouraged to email report suggestions to ppsds-changes@ucdavis.edu. ◘

Employee History screen description:

- Type the ID number of the query you want into the field to the left and press Enter on your keyboard. You will be taken directly to the query input page.
- Employee History (cardineer): Appointment change history for a single employee. 8/2002 and forward.
- Employee Hiring History Report Hire History data is almost complete back to 01/2001.
- Leave of Absence History Report Old Leave of Absence data exists but is most complete from 3/2003 forward.
- Salary Change History Report Salary Change History data exists from 08/2002 forward.
- Separation History Report Separation History data exists from 10/1999 forward.

Query Jump:

(118) Employee History
(112) Hire History
(111) Leave of Absence History
(114) Salary Change History
(113) Separation History

"My GOAL is to have all the VOICES on campus be HEARD, so that the council is an OPEN FORUM for TECHNOLOGY issues."
~ Caroline Bledsoe

CC-FIT

issues for Council discussions and reporting Council deliberations back to their constituencies. Bledsoe will oversee the development of an annual report of Council activities that will be available from the CC-FIT Web site. "I want to close the loop on communication," says Bledsoe. "Communications should come in to the Council from various sources and go back out to the campus community so everyone can be informed and have a chance to participate."

The Council will analyze various technology proposals, issues, and projects starting with the first meeting in October. Part of the Council's thorough deliberation process includes gathering background information, raising questions with the project teams, researching answers, and collecting feedback from constituent groups. The Council then comes to a consensus and, depending on the nature of the issue, formulates a recommendation to the project sponsor or to Provost Hinshaw and John Bruno, Vice Provost for Information and Educational Technology.

Past and Present Discussion Topics

Last year the Council recommended that the Provost provide funding for two major projects—the online Faculty Merit and Promotion (FMP) project and the Electronic Research Administration (ERA) project. The FMP will create digital portfolios to support the merit and promotion processes as well as other faculty-related processes. The ERA will support the electronic development, submission, review, approval, and administration of faculty research grants. Last Spring, following the advice of the Council and other groups, the Provost allocated one-time funds to both projects, thereby allowing the teams to move forward with the first phase of their projects.

Coming up for council discussion this year are a number of topics, including computer security issues, a campus-wide effort reporting system, a proposal to develop a travel and entertainment system, improvements to the online course approval system for faculty, and the coordination of document management solutions for campus departments. In addition, a subcommittee will soon conduct a Web-based survey to gauge the concerns and needs of faculty who teach (or wish to teach) with technology. According to Andy Jones, one of the survey co-writers, the survey will help CC-FIT identify some of the campus' priorities for instructional technology in the coming years.

Tapping into Technology Trends

Bledsoe keeps council members in touch with the "hot topics in technology" by having a demonstrations of new technology tools at every meeting. Some of the tools the Council has explored include a combined PDA/cellphone/digital camera, and an audience response system, through which audience members using hand held remotes and an infrared sensor respond to group questions (see related story on page 2). "When the Provost joined us at our June meeting," shares Bledsoe, "I used the remotes to test council members' understanding of some basic campus technology facts. Not only were they introduced to this new teaching tool, they also learned a few things in the process. And the Provost did extremely well!"

Bledsoe herself is an educational technology veteran who's been making increasing use of technology in her classes in the Land, Air, and Water Resources Department. She's an enthusiastic user of MyUCDavis, on which she posts syllabi and slides to class Web pages and gives her students immediate access to course materials. In Spring Quarter, Bledsoe worked with a student Educational Technology (ET) Partner to learn how to use the audience response system in her classroom. She and her ET Partner also explored Almagest, the digital imaging system and online media management and presentation tool (see related story on page 2). Bledsoe used Almagest to place all 62 final projects for her Culinary and Medicinal Herbs class into one digital repository, insert it into a PowerPoint presentation, and show off the completed projects to the entire class.

Getting Involved

Campus members interested in CC-FIT discussions and activities can contact their staff, student, or faculty Council representative (see membership list at http://ccfit.ucdavis.edu) or email Bledsoe directly at csbledsoe@ucdavis.edu. ◘

• Visit technews.ucdavis.edu to read more tech-related headlines including: New Employee Identification Cards Available •

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Back to School Announcements

All Grades To Be Submitted Online Beginning This Fall

Beginning this quarter, the campus is requiring that all final grades be submitted online. Grades may be submitted at http://classes.ucdavis.edu/grading or via the Gradebook in MyUCDavis. For help, see Gradebook Tutorials (http://my.ucdavis.edu/project/tutorials.html), attend a training session (http://trc.ucdavis.edu/trc/calendar) , call IT Express (754-HELP), or schedule individual training at The Arbor (754-2115). During finals week, visit the 'Grading Clinic' at the Teaching Resources Center (http://trc.ucdavis.edu) in 17 Wellman Hall

Wireless Access to Campus Network Expands

Wireless access to the campus network continued to expand over the summer. New wireless access points include the ARC, the Silo, the Wellman Lounge area, Bainer Hall, Kemper Hall, the Medical Science Café, and several more. For the most up-to-date coverage maps, see http://wireless.ucdavis.edu.

Full-time Banner Trainer Now Available

The campus has hired a full-time Banner trainer who has an extensive background in software training and development. Lana Dancy, the new trainer, teaches the ongoing Introduction to Banner Navigation and Queries class, as well as the newly developed Banner: Error-free Create-a-Person class. She is also developing curriculum for future classes including, SISWeb: the Student's Perspective; Banner: Population Selection/Letter Generation; and Banner: Suspense-Record Handling. Banner users will be notified by email as these new classes become available. Additionally, Dancy will be working with core client and deans' offices on business-process analyses to improve system efficiency and reduce the workload for all Banner users. She is available for either one-on-one or departmental training, and can be reached by telephone at 757-3278, or by email at lrdancy@ucdavis.edu.

The Introduction to Banner Navigation and Queries class is offered on a monthly basis (check http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/training/html/schedule.cfm for the schedule). Registration for the Banner: Error-free Create-a-Person class is through the SD&PS Web site (http://sdps.ucdavis.edu/browse.htm).

Student ID Numbers No Longer Social Security Numbers

In an effort to further protect student identities, the remaining students whose primary campus ID number had been their Social Security number were given a new computer-generated student ID number over the summer. The result of this effort is that no Social Security Numbers are now being used as Student ID numbers on campus.

Hardware and Software Upgraded in Computer Rooms

As part of an ongoing effort to provide stable and reliable software, the operating systems in 415 computers in campus computer rooms have been upgraded to Mac OS X and Windows XP. IET-Classroom Technology Services also installed 170 new computers in five computer rooms. For more information about computer rooms, see http://clm.ucdavis.edu.

Faculty Technology Guide Web Site Revised

The Faculty Technology Guide Web site (http://ftg.ucdavis.edu) has been revised to include comprehensive technology resources for the campus, a technology checklist for faculty new to campus, and an expanded FAQ.

More 10-Minute Computer Stations in Olson and Meyer

To help meet increased demand for drop-in access to campus computer rooms , five stand-up, quick-access stations were added to 15 Olson, and two quick-access computer stations were added to the Media Distribution Lab in Meyer. There are now 35 quick-access 10-minute computer stations available in the campus computer rooms.

Color Printing Now Available in The Meyer Media Lab

Responding to a long-term request, color printing is now available in the Meyer Media Lab at 1154 Meyer Hall. Campus users will be charged $1.50 per sheet. For location, equipment, and software information for the Meyer Media Lab, see http://clm.ucdavis.edu/rooms/.

Recommended Minimum Computer Specifications Updated

The campus recently updated the recommended minimum computer configurations for 2004-2005. These recommendations provide specific details about how fast your computer should be, how much disk space you need, and other related specifications. If you are planning to purchase a new computer that will have a two-to-four year life cycle, the updated information at http://computerownership.ucdavis.edu can assist you.

Need Help with MyUCDavis? Contact IT Express!

IT Express now supports the course management tools in MyUCDavis, including Website Builder, Gradebook, and Quiz Builder. The Computing Help Desk is open 8 A.M to 6 P.M., Monday through Friday for telephone (530-754-HELP), email (ithelp@ucdavis.edu) and walk-in support(182 Shields Library); and 1 P.M. to 4 P.M. Saturday and Sunday for walk-in support only. The Teaching Resources Center (http://trc.ucdavis.edu) also provides instructors with training and assistance with MyUCDavis course management tools.

Get Connected with The 2004-2005 Internet Tools CD

The latest edition of the UC Davis Internet Tools CD provides an easy way to configure your connection to the Internet through UC Davis, as well as the most convenient way to get the programs you'll need to use that connection, including anti-virus, email, telnet, FTP, and Internet software. With this software package, you can create a new account from home, automatically configure dial-up, DHCP, and ResNet Internet connections, and access an online manual that includes complete software tutorials. Best of all, the UC Davis Internet Tools is supported by IT Express, the central campus computing help desk. The CD is available at the UC Davis Bookstore Computer Shop for under $10. For more information, see http://itexpress.ucdavis.edu/online/.

Campus Computer Rooms Implement New Print Quota

The free print allowance in campus computer rooms is now 100 pages per quarter. Printing in excess of 100 sheets (200 pages front and back) per quarter will trigger a bill that will accrue at five cents per sheet. For more information on IET computer room printing policies, see http://clm.ucdavis.edu/rooms/printing/.

Computer Security
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an effective and noninvasive step to help faculty and students keep their computers safe. Ono points out that "this vulnerability scanning system is evaluating operating system programs and configurations; the scanner does not inspect personal data files." ◘

Additional Security Announcements

New Self-Scan Web Site Available

The campus has provided a new Web site that allows you to scan your computer yourself (http://selfscan.ucdavis.edu). The self-scan checks your computer for all security vulnerabilities identified by the campus during the past six months. The site also provides instructional information for fixing any vulnerabilities or infections you might have on your system.

Additional information about the computer vulnerability scanning service, including the Computer Vulnerability Scanning Policy, is available at http://security.ucdavis.edu/vuln_resources.cfm.

Stripping Email of Harmful Attachments

You've probably heard that you should be careful when opening email attachments because they could include viruses. This is good; however, you'll no longer have to rely on a hunch. To assist you, the campus is putting up another layer of defense by by blocking 34 dangerous file types (such as .exe and .pif) from entering your UC Davis email. These file types are rarely used for legitimate purposes and have helped spread some of the most recent virus attacks, such as MyDoom, Klez, and Bagle.

Under this new system, when somebody attempts to send you an email with a restricted file type attached, you'll receive the email without the attachment. A replacement attachment will inform you that the original, unsafe attachment was removed and will list options available to you should you wish to retrieve the file.

If you commonly share any of the file types blocked by UC Davis (see http://security.ucdavis.edu/attach_restrict.cfm for a complete list of restricted files), consider using Web-based file sharing (e.g MySpace) or making use of removable media such as diskettes or

Forget Your Password? Reset it Online

The new online password reset feature allows those with a campus computing account to reset a forgotten Kerberos password from their computer using an automated Web-based process. This feature allows account holders to select two or more identity verification questions that will later be used to identify them when they return to change or reset their passwords.

To set up this feature, account holders who know their Kerberos passwords should go to http://computingaccounts.ucdavis.edu and select "Change your password." Those who have forgotten their passwords prior to setting up online password reset will need to take a photo ID to the IT Express office in 182 Shields Library to obtain a new password before setting up this feature. For additional information, please see the Online Password Reset FAQ (http://middleware.ucdavis.edu/onlinepasswordreset_faq.cfm).

ET Partners
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flourished."

Now Available: Personal Help with MyUCDavis

Beginning this quarter, a few ET Partners will be available on an ad hoc basis for faculty who need help with the course management tools in MyUCDavis (Gradebook, Website Builder, and QuizBuilder). For quick questions about MyUCDavis course management tools, contact the IT Express Help Desk at (530) 754-4357 or ithelp@ucdavis.edu. The Help Desk will determine whether more in-depth assistance and a one-on-one consultation with an ET student partner would best suit your needs and, if so, will contact the program for you. The Teaching Resource Center will also be referring faculty to ET Partners for assistance.

To learn more about the ET Partners program or to apply for a Fall or Winter Quarter partnership, contact Chris Sarason at (530) 752-9545 or visit http://etpartners.ucdavis.edu. Applications for Fall Quarter partnerships will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. Monday, October 4, 2004 or until all partnerships have been established. Winter Quarter 2005 applications will be accepted until Wednesday, December 1, 2004. ◘