Acknowledgements

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Announcements

Mike Bowman's Retirement

Mike, who started facilitating CCSG a long time ago, will be retiring after more than 42 years of service to Iowa State University. He's responsible for creating CCSG. A retirement reception will be held on Wednesday, September 30, in 206 Durham Center, from 2 to 4 p.m. with a short program at 2:30 p.m. Please stop by and share well wishes and memories with Mike.

Mike noted that Hilton Coliseum was a cornfield when he came. The transition process: Maury Hope will be named Chief Information Security Officer and will take over Mike's duties (among other things). Larry Brennan and Wayne Hauber will report to Maury. Those things that you might have sent or reported to Mike in the past, you should do to Maury Hope after next Wednesday.

Account Suspension Process

Fall semester brings the annual fall account suspension process. Notices of suspension will go out September 28; some people will get a message that they may ask their IT staff about. We're rewriting the messages so they will be clearer, and will point to a webpage that will give more options (included an automated process that will help some).

The actual suspension will happen the week of October 26. That process includes cleaning up lists, removing lists those accounts owned, etc. The suspension process will take place that evening.

Tracy: With changes to the POP server updates, people may notice that their email has stopped working that evening. The Solution Center will be open; people can call 515-294-4000 for more information.

Mathworks Technical Session
A Mathworks technical session is tentatively slated for October 8 from 1 to 3 p.m. in 206 Durham Center. Some of you may have received a mailing directly from Mathworks if you’ve registered some of their products. Dan will distill their announcement and redistribute to CCSG; if you have researchers and/or students that might be interested, feel free to let them know about it.

ComETS Group (Jim Twetten, ITS)

ComETS stands for Community of Educational Technology Support. Our group is inspired by a group at the University of Wisconsin. We had a symposium last spring; we’re going to have a group meeting tomorrow at 12 noon. Some of the agenda items:

• Classroom equipment refresh (there’s an opportunity to get some funding and there will be a quick upgrade; the plan will be discussed at ComETS; send mail to Jim with comments and questions)
• Classroom capture technology (capture classroom lecture and distribute online)
• www.polleverywhere.com (this is an alternative technology to clickers; less expensive for students but requires the use of cell phones)
• Microblogging project
• Overview of Wimba (Gaylan Scofield will discuss)
• Wiki services on campus
• A little bit about Moodle
• Campus needs assessment for both faculty and students

If you can't attend the meeting at noon and want to submit comments, send them to comets@iastate.edu. The website is at www.comets.iastate.edu.

More on the CyMail Transition (Kent Ziebell, ITS)

Migrated accounts: 5981
New accounts: 893
Total accounts on CyMail: 6874

Q: Why do you say it will take 24 hours to migrate email?
A: Because that's a worst-case scenario. It usually takes a couple of hours (or more) but we don't want to get people's expectations up too much.

We've been doing some publicity (ads, posters, word of mouth, etc.) and in the next few weeks we'll start sending mail to those students still using WebMail.

Migration Process
  1. Go to www.it.iastate.edu/cymail and look for “Migration”.
  2. The process puts the Net-ID into a queue.
  3. The process then checks to see if forwarding to CyMail is really in effect.
  4. Then one final “inc” of the user's mail into WebMail is done.
  5. Mail starts being moved to Google. This usually goes quickly, but can take an hour or two depending on how many mail messages are there.
Some have taken 3-4 hours; Google does throttle us if it gets too busy.

CyMail login: cymail.iastate.edu

The CyMail Terms of Agreement (Reader’s Digest version)
- Abide by the ISU Code of Computer Ethics and Acceptable Use.
- Don’t store data that would violate the law (including export control).
- Accept that ISU may access, monitor, use, or disclose data in your Google-hosted account and Google may also do so. (This is for legal requests. We can't easily do that; to read their mail, we would have to take over the account from them and change the password. They’d notice.)

CyMail Passwords
- We do a one-way sync of passwords. (This is a lesson learned from other universities – that was their number one trouble call.)
- The sync uses SHA1 encrypted tokens transferred over SSL; Google doesn’t actually see the password itself. This is only used for IMAP/POP service; the Web-based "Gmail" client authenticates against our own Shibboleth server.

Q: Steve Kovarik: How often is the password sent?
A: Whenever the password is changed here via either ASW or Windows.

Kent had a volunteer migrate their mail as a demonstration.

CyMail is a one-way trip. If you migrate to CyMail, we won’t let you go back to WebMail. You do have to change your password to make this happen, because that’s the only way to generate the SHA1 hash.

Frank P. mentioned a message that may appear at the top of the migration page: “You appear to have a CyMail account without ever having requested one.” This happens on a few people who participated in the early CyMail tests.

Once you’ve migrated, all of the folders will be moved to CyMail. Individual contacts are moved; group contacts are put into an email that is easy to copy-and-paste into a group.

Q: What about CyMail accounts for staff?
A: As long as that person is a student, they can have one; if they stop being a student, after a year it will go away.

Q: Can CyMail be forwarded?
A: Yes, Google will let you forward anywhere (and you may also keep a copy on Gmail if you like). You can also stop forwarding your iastate.edu mail to CyMail and forward it somewhere else; you just can’t go back to WebMail, because we'd like WebMail to go away eventually.
IE8 and WebCT (Randy Dalhoff)

Last month, Randy sent out some info about IE8 and WebCT problems, particularly with Wimba voice email, as it won't display the list of names. We're working on that. Every so often there's a weird problem that crops up, but it's mostly isolated.

Another issue: Some professors are concerned about the lack of RealPlayer in the labs. Many people still use Real content in their classes and would appreciate it if people could use that in the labs.

Pronto demo (Allen Schmidt, CELT)

Even though WebCT has an IM client, WebCT is pushing the use of Pronto instead because it's better. Some instructors would like to interact with their students in real time. Some are using Adobe Connect. Wimba is another tool.

Right now we have a two-year grant to use Wimba in some of the colleges. There are other tools (WebEX, Illuminate, GoToMeeting). Wimba can only be used if you have a WebCT class; it becomes just another tool in that class. It includes:

- Voice chat (optional video)
- Voice podcasts
- Voice emails (used in language classes)
- Web conferencing tools (Live Classroom)
- Video
- Screen-sharing
- PowerPoint slides
- Recording session for later viewing

Allen gave a demonstration. Because it's in WebCT, only the students in your class can see it. Doing it that way, it comes with all the people in your class preloaded; you don't have to enroll people. All this requires only a compatible browser. Pronto is much more powerful for screen-sharing, etc. but does require installing a client on each machine.

Q: Carla Espinoza: Is this software available for download?
A: Yes, it will be available through your course. It will ask if you want to download it.

Q: Is there one available for labs?
A: Contact prontosetup@wimba.com for details.

New Business

Wayne Hauber, ITS
There's a vulnerability in SMBv2, which is a protocol used to log in to fileshares on Vista and Windows 2008 servers. The error is in how Windows parses the negotiation. Last week, a group of “white hats” published how you can gain remote command execution through this flaw. Since Vista and Windows 2008 servers are the best stuff, they'll be prime targets. MS scrambled to produce a workaround (turn off SMBv2) and provided some hastily assembled tools for doing that.

The domain controllers are W2K8 servers. Yesterday Beata patched the first two (DC3 and DC4), and that worked fine, but patching the rest today broke DFS, Active Directory U&S, Exchange logins, etc. Basically we'd seen traffic from other universities that said it caused no problems, so we made the decision to wait until this week. After discussing it with security team we decided to go ahead but once all of them were patched, many things broke. On top of that, the “back-off” tool didn't restore all of the services that the patcher tool stopped. You have to reboot the domain controllers, which we did during the beginning of this meeting. “Microsoft did a terrible job of this one...we apologize, but we were following every bit of advice to keep the domain secure.” Right now the domain is insecure, and people are sure to be coding some kind of malicious attack software. We have been blocking filesharing ports from off-campus, but one instance of the appropriate trojan here on campus could cause a major problem. We're unlikely to shut off SMBv2 again. If you do that to your servers, test extensively first. We’ll hope MS comes up with another fix soon.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 22, at 10:00 am in 206 Durham Center. **Note the change in time and date.** The room has been scheduled for another presentation at our regular meeting time.

Adjournment

The meeting ended at 3:04 p.m.