UNCP boosts computer networks

From Staff Reports

Following preparations by the Division of Information Technology (DoIT) for the 2011-2012 academic year, students this fall will:
• be wired into a new early alert system,
• use computers to find their own dorm rooms,
• receive better help with the residential network,
• enjoy greater bandwidth,
• discover desktop virtualization,
• and speed up with a turbo boost to 100GB connectivity in labs and classrooms.

SAGE

In the student early alert system, SAGE, works in conjunction with the Academic Excellence’s Tu- torTrene as a Web service helping students receive academic assistance.

Classrooms PCs

Some 70 classrooms in the Herbert O. Odentine Science Building and 14 classrooms in the Business Administration Building will have new computers with the Office of Housing for fall campus for fall semester. Students have been obtaining system software upgraded to Windows 7.

Eset

DoIT has acquired new virus protection software for the campus. The software, called Eset, will replace McAfee software on computers using the Win- dows operating system. Eset offers virus and secu- rity protection for both PCs, as well as Macintosh ma- chines when running Win- dows, with features meeting or exceeding McAfee at a lower cost.

IRIS

Returning residential students have been obtain- ing their residence hall room assignments using the Housing Management System (HMS) on the Web. DoIT staff member Myra Moody is working with the Office of Housing and Residence Life to en- able new students to apply for housing online.

With Cypress Hall open in August, students find both wired and wireless net- works. In addition, DoIT’s client services group has added a student network support system with residential network (ResNet) issues.

The new system, Safe-Connect, will increase bandwidth and protection for network users while re- ducing the complexity of using ResNet.

Virtualization

The new desktop virtual- ularization system will en- sure and software for students, at re- duced cost. Projects using virtualization will include some new student computer facilities.

With ever-expanding virtual server environment will experience a turbo boost to 100GB connectivity and an increase in the number of users as our new virtual network refresh project provides additional resources,” according to Dr. Robert L. Orr, associate vice chancellor for Information Resources and CIO.

“Thesearch area is a collection of high capacity servers that combine to provide a pool of virtual servers that can be used to provide cen- tral services for the campus, specific applications for ac- ademic or administrative departments, and virtual machines or applications for use in student labs and classrooms,” Dr. Orr said.

NCREN

The Microelectronics Center of North Carolina (MCNC) is installing a so- called Community Anchor Network (CAN) to help launch a project to expand the North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN).

MCNC is an independent, non-profit organization that uses advanced network- ing technologies to improve learning and collaboration throughout North Carolina’s K-20 education community.

Every computer lab across the UNCP campus was upgraded to Windows 7, along with other programs de- signed to help students.

The university’s busi- ness-related document im- aging project is moving for- ward under the guidance of Director of IT Planning and Budgeting Maureen Wind- meyer, who is coordinating the project with the offices of financial aid and admissions and the controller’s office.

The project team visited UNC Wilmington to ob- serve their imaging processes.

DoIT staff member Ken Brayboy imported thou- sands of documents for the School of Education (SoE) as part of early implementa- tion.

DoIT will be training SoE faculty and staff on the software and working with additional offices.

EMS

A new event management system (EMS) is in use at the University Center and other departments scheduling events. EMS re- places the older campus event calendar.

WebFOCUS

DoIT staff members Trevor Thompson, Jonathon Lowery and Maureen Windmeyer are migrating data reporting into a new WebFOCUS service that re- places two older systems –

Cognos ReportNet and Re- porting Web Application (RWA).

Pilot said.

In front of Oak Hall, some students were venturing into the water covered roadway.

Behind Oak Hall, the road was blocked as students splashed through the water to move their cars from watery parking spots.

The new network has a higher level of redundancy, which gives it a higher tol- erance for single points of failure. This will allow peo- ple to remain connected during network problems.

Postini

Postini is implementing Google Postini email secu- rity services, which provide anti-spam and anti-virus protection plus automated archiving of email mes- sages.

With it, users are able to customize their own email whitelists and blacklists and recover lost or deleted email mes- sages.

The Postini website at http://www.ucp.edu/doit/ for more information.

Strong storms cause flash flooding

The severe thunderstorms that rolled through Pembroke on Aug. 29 caused many low lying areas to flood. The photo behind Oak Hall affected University Drive and the Residential Parking Lot by the Campus Police station.

By Nick Phillips

A band of severe thunder- storms that included hail and possible tornadoes in other parts of North Carolina rolled through Pembroke around 9 a.m. Aug. 29 quickly dumping rain on the UNCP campus and doing some- thing Hurricane Irene could not - cause flooding.

People low lying areas around campus all were over- flowing with water.

In front of Oak Hall, some students ventured into the water covered roadway.

Behind Oak Hall, the road was blocked as students splashed through the water to move their cars from watery parking spots.

This is what I was expect- ing from Irene,” senior Nick Pilot said.

The waters had receded and drained by the next morning be- fore students began classes.

Every computer lab across the UNCP campus was upgraded to Windows 7, along with other programs designed to help students.

By Nick Phillips

The photo on Aug. 29 flooded the nearby-reserved Commuter Parking Lot that sits between Third Street and the railroad tracks.