Message from the CIO

The TTU IT Division is enjoying a productive fall, as we have implemented several new services and hosted educational opportunities for the University community. In this issue, we highlight the Raider PCMart application, the TTU Instant Messaging software, and the Copyright and Intellectual Property Roundtable Event. We are rapidly approaching “prime time” of the year from virus intrusions, hacker activity, and identity theft. We strongly encourage you to practice safe computing and to be alert! An informed consumer is an empowered consumer...

-Sam Segran
Associate Vice President for IT and Chief Information Officer

Copyright Synopsis

On November 15, 2005, the Office of the CIO hosted a Copyright and Intellectual Property Roundtable for the University community. The following expert panel focused on key issues in academe:

Lance Anderson, J.D. (TEACH Act and Fair Use)
Managing Director, Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property, Texas Tech University

Logan Brown (Student Perspective)
Second year law student
Intellectual Property Student Association

Wes Cochran, J.D. (Introduction to Copyright Law; Contributory Infringement)
Professor of Law, Texas Tech School of Law

Susanne Moore, R.N., J.D. (Patent Law)
Associate General Council, HSC, HSC Legal Services

Marina Oliver, M.L.S. (Intellectual Property and Library Resources)
Associate Librarian, Texas Tech University

Moderator:
Katherine Austin Stalcup, Ph.D.
Managing Director, Technology Support, Texas Tech University

In the spring, we will publish a “Special Edition” bulletin that will detail key points from each presentation. Highlight information from the event:

- An original work is copyrighted at the moment of creation; assume that a work is copyrighted;
- Technology may give you the capability to download an item, but that does not give you the right to do so;
- TTU is working on a copyright operating policy that will incorporate principles from the TEACH Act and Fair Use doctrine;
- Ideas can be patented; the University will consider sponsoring a patent on a case-by-case basis;
- A key component to protecting the University community from contributory infringement legal action is user education;
- The TTU Library has access to many electronic publications and resources.

Based on the feedback we have received from this recent event, we will host another Copyright roundtable next fall.

Remindern: eRaider Password Expiration

With cooperation from the University community, the implementation of eRaider strong passwords and expiration has been smooth. Please note that eRaider passwords must be renewed every ninety (90) days. You will receive three e-mail notifications before password expiration (messages will cease once you change your password). In addition, you will be reminded each time you authenticate to an application until the password is renewed.

Strong passwords may be a bit less convenient, but the practice guards against data theft and privacy violations. The heightened security is necessary in our current business climate. To view all of the IT Security Policies, please visit http://www.inforch.ttu.edu/security/. If you have any questions, or for additional information, please contact IT Help Central at 806-742-HHELP(4357).

TTU Web Advisory Committee

The Web Advisory Committee at Texas Tech University was formed by the CIO to obtain feedback on strategic directions for web issues. Members of this committee were appointed by Deans and Vice Presidents.

Standing from left: Randy Reddick, Ph.D., College of Mass Communications; Pavan Chinthapanti, College of Education (substitute for Wes Fryer); Jeff Day, Information Technology Division; Michele Moskos, Division of Outreach and Extended Studies; Carolyn Kennedy, Office of the Provost; Beverly Pickle, Information Technology Division; Katy Henderson, Research Services; Angela Smith, Division of Student Affairs; Richard McCracken, University Library; Allen Young, Information Technology Division; Dan Dean, School of Law.

Sitting from left: Brent Guinn, College of Engineering; Tom Heisey, Teaching Learning and Technology Center; Katherine Austin Stalcup, Ph.D., Information Technology Division; Frederick Suppe, Ph.D., College of Arts and Sciences; Djuana Young, Enrollment Management; JD Hart, College of Arts and Sciences (Guest).

Not pictured: Sam Segran, Associate Vice President for IT and Chief Information Officer; Kyle Alexander, College of Visual and Performing Arts; Cary Green, Ph.D., College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources; David Dawson, Rawls College of Business; Wes Fryer, College of Education.
Raider PCMart

Overview of Application
As a part of the “Cradle to Grave” CIO initiative and in partnership with the Operations Division, the IT Division has created an application to facilitate the voluntary exchange of computing equipment among TTU departments. Raider PCMart allows departments to electronically find other departments that are interested in the replaced equipment, before the equipment is permanently surplus to the Texas Prison System or other organizations. While inventory transfer paperwork is a precursor to the exchange, the application allows interested parties to share information and negotiate PC (and peripheral equipment) trades. As with any equipment transfer, all TTU Operating Policies and Procedures apply. Each department is responsible for the conditions of the exchange and the condition of the equipment. The system is designed only for the purposes of computing equipment exchange.

Application Features
Raider PCMart has the following features:

- Computer and related peripheral equipment can be posted for 30 days and renewed for an additional 30 days.
- Posting departments can include pictures of equipment available for exchange.
- Automated e-mail reminders for posted equipment (expiration dates and renewal time frames) are sent to the posting department.
- Automated e-mail notifications are sent to departments that have posted equipment from departments that indicate interest in the posted equipment.

University Usage
The following activity data, current as of November 3, 2005, indicates that the University community has embraced this technology tool:

- Equipment listed (75 total items):
  - 36% Accessories (27)
  - 41% Computers (31)
  - 13% Monitors (10)
  - 8% Printers (6)
  - 1% Scanners (1)
- Item listing status
  - 63 (84%) Removed before expiration (Interdepartmental transfer)
  - 8 (11%) Removed after expiration (Surplused)
  - 3 (4%) Currently expired, but not removed yet
  - 1 (1%) Current listing (Printer)

TTU Instant Messenger

TTU Instant Messenger (IM) contains all the same functionality that was present in Microsoft’s Windows Messenger plus customized tabs for the TTU community. Instantly communicate with colleagues, co-workers, and students!

With TTU IM you get the following features:

- Collaborate on projects using the Application Sharing feature
- Send and receive files with people on your Contacts list
- Have a one-to-one Chat session
- Chat with multiple people in the same window and session
- Have a demonstration and discussion using the Whiteboard feature
- Ask for assistance or provide assistance for one of your contacts using the Remote Assistance feature
- Have a Voice and/or Video Chat session, if you have a microphone and/or a camera

In addition, the TTU-customized version includes the following tabs for easy reference and access:

- TechAnnounce Messages
- TechEvents Calendar
- TTU Network Announcements
- Local Weather
- News
- TTU Instant Messenger

TTU student, faculty, and staff can download TTU IM for free at http://eraider.ttu.edu.

If you would like detailed training, please visit http://www.itts.ttu.edu/training/shortcourse/ to register for the TTU IM ShortCourse.

Safe Computing Tips for Information Security

- Always lock your computer when you leave your desk. Use “Control, Alt, and Delete,” or hold down the “Windows key and L” to lock your computer. You can also set your screensaver to activate password protection.
- Be sure to exit from TTU applications such as TECHSIS, TECHRIS, TECHFIM before leaving your computer.

For additional Safe Computing Practices information, please visit http://safecomputing.tru.edu.