Looking to the Future

Information Technology Division Bulletin
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Message from the CIO
Happy New Year! The IT Division welcomes another busy year full of services and programs for the TTU community. We have provided an abbreviated outline of upcoming events. Please watch TechAnnounce for details. In addition, this issue highlights the eLearning course administration tool, as well as innovative technologies in our High Performance Computing area. This spring we have two special edition bulletins planned to target key topics: Copyright/Intellectual Property and IT “Spring Cleaning.”

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

High Performance Computing Center Hosts Hands-on Training Session

The High Performance Computing Center (HPCC) in the TTU IT Division recently deployed a new research computing cluster, Hrothgar. This system consist of 128 nodes. Hrothgar is available to HPCC users and researchers.

On January 10th and 11th, a seminar and hands-on training session was organized for HPCC users. Researchers and faculty from several disciplines attended the two day training event. The sessions were led by HPCC staff members Srirangam Addepalli and Dr. David Chaffin. Those attending the sessions learned the basics of high performance computing, including how to obtain an account on HPCC resources, using SSH/PUTTY/SFTP, compiling programs, using editors, and how to submit jobs to the clusters.

In more advanced sessions, topics such as Rocks, Linux, HPC Software, and compiling MPI/OpenMP programs were covered. Researchers and faculty also went through examples of the batch submission process. Because of the overwhelming response, similar training will be offered again in the future.

For additional information about HPCC resources and to obtain an account, visit http://www.hpcc.ttu.edu/ or call 806-742-4350.

eLearning: TTU’s Electronic Course Companion

After two years of careful piloting with TTU faculty, the IT Division released the eLearning tool into production last fall. The eLearning application has the following features:

Faculty features:
• send announcements to your students;
• set up and maintain your gradebook; securely post final grades to TechSIS with one “click”;
• set up assignments and add attachments;
• add teaching assistants to help you manage the course;
• upload course materials; and
• import gradebooks and syllabi from previous semesters.

Student features:
• view grades as they are entered by faculty;
• view the syllabus;
• view announcements;
• view assignments;
• view course materials;
• upload assignments where the faculty member has enabled uploads.
To use the eLearning application:

- Navigate to Raiderlink, http://www.raiderlink.ttu.edu

- Click the eRaider Sign In button. Log in to the Raiderlink system using your eRaider username and password.

- You will see a tab at the top of the page titled eLearning. Click this tab to be taken to the eLearning channel in Raiderlink.

The Information Technology Division invites all faculty and students to take advantage of this resource. Technology Support offers Shortcourse instruction for faculty and students. To register for a Shortcourse, go to http://www.itts.ttu.edu/training/shortcourses.

Please contact IT Help Central at 806-742-HELP(4357) for technical assistance. If you have questions concerning instructional features, please contact Amy Boren (amy.boren@ttu.edu) or call 806-742-1650.

**IT Educational Events for Spring 2006**

The TTU IT Division hosts educational opportunities for the University community each semester. We are planning the following for the Spring 2006 semester:

- IT Division Bulletin – Copyright Special Edition
- IT Division Bulletin – IT “Spring Cleaning”
- Podcasting Roundtable
- Scientific Computing Roundtable
- DELL Roadmap Presentation
- SkillSoft – Computer-Based Training (CBT) Event

Watch TechAnnounce for specific dates and information.

**Safe Computing Tips for Mailbox Maintenance**

- Delete old and unwanted messages
- Empty Deleted Items, Sent Items, and Junk E-mail folders daily
- Set up Auto Archiving in Outlook http://www.helpdesk.ttu.edu/info/mail_maintenance.php
- Set up SPAM filters http://www.depts.ttu.edu/helpcentral/info/antispam.php

For instructions and more information about mailbox maintenance, visit http://www.helpdesk.ttu.edu/info/mail_maintenance.php.

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

Please be a responsible Texas Tech University network citizen and manage your mailbox.

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*Safecomputing Practices Committee:* Katherine Austin, Ph.D., Shannon Cepica, J Stalcup, Darrell Bateman, Scott Hall, Eric Burrell, Lori Dudley, Tony Castle, and assistance from IT Division Directors and other staff.

**IT Web Site:** http://www.infotech.ttu.edu

Texas Tech University Web Site: http://www.ttu.edu

Computer-Based Training (CBT): http://cbt.ttu.edu

Laws and Texas Tech Policies: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/itts/documentation/laws

Past copies of TTU IT Division Bulletins may be found online at http://www.infotech.ttu.edu/itbulletin

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