Message from the CIO

This fall, the TTU IT Division brings a number of new and updated innovative technology solutions available for Texas Tech University. Our wireless and mobile public printing solution, WEPA, is now available at multiple campus locations, as is our new Digital Signage Solution. We will make Office 2013 media available for those interested, although certainly not required. We have added building-level features and functionality to our Google-based TTU Campus Maps, as suggested by students, staff, and faculty during our usability testing. Lastly, we highlight two Instructional Technology innovators – Ian Wilkinson and Dr. Don Farris. The energy and enthusiasm on campus is contagious – Go Tech!!

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

WEPA™ (Wireless Everywhere Print Anywhere) at Texas Tech University

Wireless Everywhere Print Anywhere, (WEPA), is a cloud-based printing environment that is available across a network of touch-screen printing kiosks. This program brings the latest innovations in distributed printing services to the TTU campus:

- Kiosks are available in all ATLC lab facilities to allow students to print directly from the ATLC lab computers, personal laptops or desktops, USB flash drives, or mobile devices;
- Black and white and color laser printing are available at all WEPA kiosks;
- Customers can install WEPA™ print drivers on personal systems and choose to print their jobs to the “WEPA cloud” then go to the nearest kiosk to print the submitted documents;
- The TTU Community can also upload documents to the “WEPA cloud” from anywhere via the WEPA™ website. Once the document is submitted to the WEPA hosted service, the document can be printed at any WEPA™ kiosk; and
- Multiple payment options are available, including the Texas Tech University Raider Card system, WEPA account, and WEPA print cards.

TTU Campus Map: New and Improved!

If you’ve ever wondered where a certain location is on campus, we’ve got a new resource for you! Over the last few months, the TTU Campus Map (http://www.ttu.edu/map/) has been updated to provide new features and services to help you find the information you need. Some of the most important new features of the map include:

- Completely redesigned look and feel using the latest version of Google Maps;
- Optimization to improve performance;
- Creation of a version to make better use of smaller screen sizes;
- Simplified categories to make locations simpler to view and easier to find; and
- Addition of Bus Routes and Campus Entry Stations for visitors.

Try the TTU Campus Map today!

University Digital Signage

Posters, easels, bulletin boards, and pushpins are rapidly being replaced by Digital Signage systems – the modern way to “post” information in buildings. Display technology facilitates the display of rich, robust content; including web pages, videos, and live news data. At TTU, we also display TTU announcements, events, and other timely information on a large format monitor (TV). With Digital Signage, you can manage your content more efficiently without all the clutter of poster products. The TTU IT Division has recently negotiated a site-license with FourWinds Interactive to replace our previous campus Digital Signage solution, Nexus.

TTU IT Managed Digital Signage systems are currently installed in the following locations:

- Architecture
- ATLC
- Engineering
- Foreign Language
- Honor’s College, Gordon Hall
- Human Sciences
- IT Help Central
- Office of the CIO
- Provost’s Office
- Student Media Building
- Media and Communication
- SOAR Center
- Student Rec Center
- Student Union Building
- TTU Advising
- United Spirit Arena
- University Library
- TTU Downtown plaza (Xcel Building)

The campus digital signage systems are also connected to the TTU TechAlert system, our official Emergency Notification System managed by The Office of the CIO, the Office of the President, and Communications & Marketing. When TTU issues a TechAlert Emergency Notification, all digital signs connected to the FourWinds Server will display the emergency message providing you with important information.

For information about implementing digital signage in your area, please contact IT Help Central at (806) 742-4357 (HELP) or via email at ithelpcentral@ttu.edu.
Microsoft Office 2013 Now Available

After extensive testing and evaluation, the TTU Information Technology Division announces the availability of Microsoft Office 2013 for TTU faculty, staff, and students this fall. Among the many new features of Office 2013 is an improved interface that provides additional options for file storage. Office 2013 also integrates more closely with Microsoft SharePoint, allowing documents and files to be more easily shared among workgroups. Office 2013 is designed to take advantage of cloud storage options such as Microsoft Skydrive. Microsoft Office 2013 Professional Plus includes; Access, Excel, Infopath Designer, Infopath Filler, Lync, OneNote, Outlook, PowerPoint, Publisher, Skydrive Pro, and Word.

Microsoft media purchases are available to TTU students, faculty, and staff, according to the terms of the Texas Tech University Microsoft Campus Agreement. Microsoft Office 2013 can be purchased in the Atlc (West Basement of the Main Library Building):

- For faculty/staff campus use on University-owned workstations, faculty/staff may pick up Microsoft Office 2013 32-bit and 64-bit editions from the Atlc. Due to Microsoft licensing restrictions, the campus use version is not available to students or for faculty/staff Work at Home use.
- For student and faculty/staff Work at Home use, Microsoft Office 2013 32-bit and 64-bit DVD's may be purchased for $10 in the Atlc.

Please note:

- Due to Microsoft activation requirements, Office 2013 is not available for download.
- Installing the Office 2013 campus edition on a system located off-campus or a personal system violates the terms of the Microsoft Campus Agreement. The resulting failed activation attempts will cause the system to display a message that the software is not legitimate and shutdown the computer each time the message is displayed.
- As with all site licensed software not distributed electronically, you must sign a license agreement and present photo identification at the time you purchase the media in the Atlc.
- Purchases must be made with cash or check only; we are unable to accept credit card payments at this time.
- For more information on software license agreements for TTU, please visit the Technology Support website at http://www.itts.ttu.edu/software.

Please make sure your system meets the minimum system requirements for Office 2013 before upgrading. Faculty/staff campus users are strongly encouraged to consult with their local IT support providers before upgrading their computers. For other questions or for further information regarding Microsoft software sales at the Atlc, please contact IT Help Central at (806)742-4357 (HELP) or ithelpcentral@ttu.edu.

Texas Tech Electrical Engineering professor Donald Farris moved to Oregon last year, but wanted to continue to teach his wind energy class. This led Ian to develop a system that integrates Microsoft Lync, a video conferencing and instant messaging tool, with Mediasite to record and deliver courses and make them available live or on-demand to students. Dr. Farris uses Microsoft Lync to deliver his lecture live to his students on campus. Lync also records the lecture, which is then uploaded to Mediasite. Then Dr. Farris posts a link of the Mediasite presentation to the Blackboard learning management system for students to access on-demand wherever the students have internet access.

According to Ian, “Using Mediasite Enterprise Video Platform increases student engagement, reduces the pressure on other systems and keeps all video assets securely managed, regardless of where they were created. We’re able to pull videos out of platforms like YouTube and make them more secure. Students really do seem to enjoy Mediasite. Distance students say they enjoy feeling a part of the classroom, and students, regardless of whether they attend class - on-campus or remotely - can review content they missed on-demand on their own time.”

Please join us in recognizing the commitment to excellence of Texas Tech Faculty members and professionals, such as Ian, who continue to find ways to serve students, no matter where they are!

Contributions by: Katherine Austin Beltz, Ph.D., Jeff Barrington, Andrew Bevly, Carlene Kelly, Rebecca Massey, Ron Nail, Britta Tye, John Vandygriff, Binari Witanapatirana, and Allen Young. Safe Computing Practices Committee: Sam Segran, Katherine Austin Beltz, Ph.D., Jeff Barrington, Darrell Bateman, Shannon Cepica, Scott Hall, Danny Mar, Ron Nail, Yung Ng, Randall Osborne, Mike Simmons, Phil Smith, Ph.D., J Stalcup, Britta Tye, John Vandygriff, Allen Young, and assistance from IT Division leadership and staff.

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www.it.ttu.edu/itbulletin