I-Light Expansion: High Speed Data Network for Indiana

I-light is an expansion of a $6 million network that began operating five years ago between Indiana University in Bloomington, Purdue University in West Lafayette and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. It has been designed to connect the member universities’ supercomputers and research facilities with virtually unlimited bandwidth, including access to the Internet. It will also be extended to include an additional 15 nodes of higher education campuses around the state.

I-light will permit IPFW’s network bandwidth to increase to one billion bits per second (1 gigabit), from the current 45 million per second (45 megabits). Connections to I-light in Fort Wayne will be made at the facilities of Indigital, located at 3212 W. Washington Center Road, where telecommunications carriers serving the area have the equipment for connections with other customers. This upgrade in network service is scheduled to be completed during the summer of 2006.

IPFW is constructing a network connection between the Indigital offices and IPFW’s Computer Center located in Kettler Hall with additional connections to the Indiana Data Center, located at 620 W. Coliseum Blvd. The Indiana Data Center will house a hub for IPFW’s connection through the not-for-profit Northeast Indiana Regional Area Network (NEIRAN).

The NEIRAN operating center will employ college students, and the network will serve government agencies and public library systems as well as educational groups, including the Allen County Education Network (ACENET). ACENET became operational last year, allowing Allen County’s four public school districts and Bishop Dwenger High School to avoid Internet congestion in communications with each other while improving their ability to share resources online. A number of colleges and universities in the area are planning to join NEIRAN as soon as the I-light connection becomes operational. I-light will also permit ACENET to expand beyond the Allen County borders or possibly be replicated in neighboring counties with connections to NEIRAN in Fort Wayne.

IU Retires Usenet Servers
Shutting Down IU Newsgroups

UITS will retire the following Usenet servers:

- news.indiana.edu
- news.iu.edu
- usenet.ucs.indiana.edu

This change will go into effect at Indiana University on July 3, 2006. As a result, you will no longer be able to access Usenet newsgroups from these servers, and local (IU)
Karen Griggs, Assistant Professor with the English and Linguistics Department, uses technology to enhance her teaching in face-to-face, computer lab, and online environments. Karen uses WebCT and PowerPoint presentation software in all of her courses; she has designed Web sites for two of her courses.

Through WebCT, Karen’s students have constant access to important information, including course policies, a detailed semester calendar, course assignments, and samples for discussion. This medium also enables Karen to decrease her response time to student questions and to promptly offer feedback on assignments. Students use this technology to communicate with each other as they endeavor to complete assigned small group projects and to provide Karen with important, in-depth information about the course via online course evaluations. Additionally, Karen uses WebCT’s e-mail feature to gather information from students to gauge their comprehension of course material and what they need to improve it. She writes, “If a few students ask the same question in mail messages, I can quickly anticipate the direction of a team and customize a mini-lesson about reports or storyboard planning for a presentation to corporate managers in industry.”

Karen consistently explores new ways technology can facilitate the realization of her pedagogical goals. To this end, she regularly attends workshops offered by CELT, IT Services, and the Society for Technical Communication.

Seamless Transitions With Generic Accounts

Do you send mailings or fliers that list an e-mail address to contact? Do you have a departmental calendar or conference room in GroupWise? Do you have any folders or address books that are shared with everyone in your department? If so, you might find managing your resources much simpler by creating a generic departmental e-mail account.

By creating a generic e-mail address, you can have an "official" address to print on all publications and Web sites. This way you can have a central point of contact that will never change and can be accessed by anyone who needs to read the mail. This avoids the situation where someone's personal address is published on a brochure and then leaves the university--invalidating the address.

A generic account can also centralize the ownership of shared GroupWise resources. If your department has a shared vacation or conference room calendar, assigning ownership to a generic account makes it easier to manage. If your office or department benefits from subscriptions to listservs, it also makes sense to subscribe through a generic account that can be accessed by all. When these types of resources are owned by an individual, it's easy to forget who controls it after a while. Additionally, if that person leaves the university and their account is deleted, no one owns the resource anymore. This is also true for shared address books and folders in GroupWise.

If you utilize these shared features in GroupWise on a department-wide or other large scale basis, you may be able to reap the benefits of a generic account. If you'd like to talk to someone about your options, contact the IT Services Help Desk at 1-6030.

IU Retires Usenet (Continued from page 1)

newsgroups will no longer be available.

IPFW newsgroups will continue to be available. For information on accessing IPFW newsgroups, direct a Web browser to the following page:


Google Groups

For reading Usenet newsgroups after the retirement, UITS recommends using Google Groups at:

http://groups.google.com/

Google Groups offers an up-to-date, Web-based archive of Usenet postings. To post messages and respond to other posts, you'll need to create a Google Groups account. For more information, see the "Google Groups: What's New" at the following page: http://groups.google.com/intl/en/googlegroups/tour/index.html.
INFOShare

By Michael Fraser
Network Systems Programmer

Google Searches IPFW
Sneak Peak: http://gsearch.ipfw.edu
ITS is currently implementing the Google Mini Search Appliance here at IPFW. This is sure to change the way people find information on our Websites, expanding the possibilities for users and potential students to find information. We are currently developing a standard template that you will be able to implement on your own Website. Look for more information in the next InfoShare!

GroupWise 7.0 Web Access Languages
Prefer another language? Visit this page: http://gwwa1.ipfw.edu/gw/

One Less Click!
You can install the IPFW Security Certificate and not get prompted for security on myIPFW and other secure IPFW sites! Visit this page: http://www.its.ipfw.edu/resources/secure.html

Spyware and Your Computer
Spyware differs from viruses in that it does not replicate itself, but it can be dangerous. Spyware is a program that installs itself on your computer in order to transmit information to companies that use this information in a number of ways, including selling it to others, using it for marketing data, or tracking your browsing habits.

On campus, you can access all the tools to rid your computer of spyware and improve its performance by going to Start > IPFW Icons > Computer Maintenance > Computer Maint. Docs. It can also be found on the ITS Website at: http://www.its.ipfw.edu/howto/maintenance.html

Changes in Password Criteria and Expiration

In accordance with Purdue directives, ITS has implemented a password criteria and expiration change for faculty and staff.

Effective Monday, April 17, the following password criteria was put into effect.

- Password must be at least 8 characters but no more than 16 characters long.
- Password must begin with a letter.
- Password must contain at least one number.
- Password must contain at least 4 different characters (for example, you couldn’t use ababab88 because it only contains three unique characters, a, b and 8).
- Password cannot be anything you’ve previously used in the last year.

When the system prompts you to change your password and you have grace logins remaining, do NOT change it at the prompt box. Login to the myIPFW portal
  - http://my.ipfw.edu
  - Go to Personal Info folder.
  - Click on Change Password.
  - For complete instructions as well as guidelines for creating a good password point your browser to: http://www.its.ipfw.edu/howto/cpassword.html

Occasionally when you are prompted to change your password, your only option will be to do so at the prompt. If so, please change your password using the password criteria displayed above. Should you have any problems please contact the ITS Help Desk at 16030, or you may use a different computer to log in to the my.ipfw portal and make the change.

Along with the password criteria enforcement, passwords will now expire every 60 days.

This column is devoted to providing our readers with time-saving techniques and short-cuts that will amaze and delight. If you have a favorite keyboard short-cut, send them to us via zeppp@ipfw.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short Cut</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windows Key</td>
<td>Opens the Start menu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows Key + D</td>
<td>Toggles between minimizing and restoring all windows on the Desktop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows Key + F1</td>
<td>Display the Windows Help menu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows Key + F</td>
<td>Display the Windows Search / Find feature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows Key + Tab</td>
<td>Cycles through open programs on the taskbar. Press Enter to open the window.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Wedding Bells for Jim & Melissa**

Melissa Miller joined the Help Desk in March 2004 with over four years of IT troubleshooting/customer service experience. She currently has an IPFW Associates degree in General Studies and is working on her Bachelors.

Jim Litmer joined Desktop Support in 2000 and is pursuing a degree in Computer Engineering Technology and Computer Science at IPFW. With over ten years of relevant experience and an excellent education, Jim brings valuable skills to his position requiring him to troubleshoot and repair IPFW’s computer hardware and software.

The Help Desk and Technical Support groups collaborate regularly on hardware and software issues so it didn’t take long before Jim and Melissa became an item. Their first date was May 13, 2004 and Jim asked Melissa to marry him on May 13, 2005. It seemed only fitting that they set a wedding date for May 13, 2006. After they marry, Jim and Melissa will be living in Fort Wayne while working on building a house in Decatur. We wish Jim and Melissa the very best in their marriage. They really do make the perfect couple.

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**House Keeping Reminder**

It’s that time of year when campus is a little quieter and vacations occupy our thoughts. But it is also the time for looking at your GroupWise proxy lists and personal e-mail groups for names that need to be added or deleted. Additionally, with a new semester starting, the paperwork begins for new account requests. Just a reminder that supervisors should complete and submit an account request form at least 5 days prior to the employment start date.