Technology Tips for Travelers

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Agenda

• Before you leave
• Passwords
• Connecting while away
• Other tips
• Other resources
• Questions
Before you leave

- What kind of trip is this?
  - You may have different needs on a business trip vs. a vacation
- Where are you going?
  - Are there any special regulations for international travel?
- How are you getting there?
- Decide what device(s) you need to take with you
Before you leave (cont.)

• Can you get a loaner?
  – If not, do you need to take all your data?
• Make sure everything is up to date
  – Double check your anti-virus software
• Set an automatic reply on your University e-mail account
  – Collaboration Services allows you to specify a message for internal or external contacts
Before you leave (cont.)

- **Back up** your data
- Notify important people or services
  - Don’t forget your bank or credit card companies
- How do you get cash?
  - Do you need a different currency?
  - Are you going to use your debit card?
Before you leave (cont.)

• Contact your cellular provider
  – Find out if service is available and what it will cost?
    • Does that also include data?
    • Does your phone support multiple SIM cards?
  – Perhaps you can use Skype or Google Voice as an alternative?
    • $5.00 goes a long way…

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Passwords

- Assume your password will be compromised if you use it
- Consider this option
  - Create new passwords before you leave
    - Only change the passwords on accounts you need to access while you are gone
  - Change them when you get back
Connecting while away

- If possible choose cellular
  - Keep your phone off or in airplane mode to avoid roaming charges
- Consider purchasing a disposable phone or SIM card
- Always use SSL or HTTPS
- Use VPN or SSL/VPN when possible
Connecting while away (cont.)

- Outlook Web Access (OWA)
- Do not trust kiosk or Internet cafes
- If possible avoid connections to your financial institution(s)
- Assume connections will be spotty
Other tips

• Don’t forget your power cords or cables for charging
  – Do you need power adaptors?
• Use a surge protector
• Don’t travel with sensitive information
  – If you must ensure it is encrypted
Other Tips (cont.)

- Be aware of your surroundings
- Make copies of your travel documents
- Don’t forget your medical insurance card and drug history
- Have a spare credit card
- Don’t lose site of your devices
  - Use the safe in your hotel
  - Keep all your valuables in it
Other resources

- "Traveling Light in a Time of Digital Thievery" - NY Times
- Safety and Security for the Business Professional Traveling Abroad - FBI
- Travel Information from the U.S. State Department
- Travelers' Health Tips - CDC
- Northwestern University Travel Services
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Questions?