The Times Are Changing
What’s New & Changing with Technology at Northwestern
NUIIT Tech Talk - May 13, 2005

Agenda
- E-Mail Defense System (EDS)
- Meeting Maker 8.5
- New Software
- Modem Pool Retirement
- Datacenter Service Downtime & Upgrades
- End of Windows 2000 Support

E-Mail Defense System (EDS)
Fall, 2005

EDS Overview
- New technology coming soon to Northwestern’s central e-mail servers
- Scans for junk e-mail before reaching your computer; decreased frustration
- Reduces some junk e-mail that reaches your Inbox; increased productivity
- Deletes some viruses before reaching your computer; increased security
How EDS Works

• Scans e-mail messages “on their way in” for viruses per definitions; if present, messages are not delivered
• Assigns each message a “junk score”
• Depending on settings, quarantines e-mails marked as junk in special Web-accessible mailbox
• Not counted toward maximum 50 MB e-mail quota

How EDS Works (cont’d)

• Users receive daily e-mail digest listing quarantined messages marked as highly probable junk
• Users can log in to a Web site with NU NetID/password and select marked messages, if any, to deliver to regular e-mail Inbox

EDS Login Screen

What to Expect

• Training sessions on both campuses
• This fall, the entire University will be automatically moved to the E-mail Defense System
• Users may easily opt out at any time
Meeting Maker 8.5

- New version of Northwestern’s central calendaring software for administrative groups
- Improved user interface
- Enhanced interaction with Microsoft Outlook via optional conduit
- Easier PDA synching

Currently in NUIT testing
Will be available Summer, 2005
Automatic upgrade
No upgrade fee for current license holders
More information will be posted on NUIT’s Web site as it is available
New Software

- Blackboard (Course Management System)
- Mathematica 5.0.1
- Endnote 8.0.2 (Sans toolkit)
- Adobe Photoshop CS 2
- Symantec AntiVirus 10
- Available for purchase through NUIT
- See NUIT’s Software Web site for more information: www.it.northwestern.edu/software/

NUIT Central Modem Pool Retirement

August 1, 2005

Modem Pool Retirement

- Declining usage and security concerns
- Will increase effectiveness of firewalls and intrusion detection
- Great opportunity to upgrade to industry-leading Internet access
- August 1, 2005
- Modem pool access to be discontinued
Modem Pool Usage

- Steady decline in usage since 1999

![Chart showing Modem Pool Usage]

Modem Pool & Technology

- Improved technology is available with faster access and more flexibility
- Many affordable connection options have been introduced in recent years
- Not cost effective for NU to run and maintain an antiquated service

Off-Campus Internet Options

- **DSL** - Fast, moderately priced (~$35), available in most areas, requires phone line
- **Cable Internet** - Fast, most expensive (~$45), available in most areas, does not require phone line
- **Dialup** - Inexpensive (~$20), readily available, requires phone line

Connectivity for Travelers

- Many dialup providers have access numbers across the USA and toll-free Internet access (+ additional fee)
- Many DSL and some Cable Internet providers offer free or low-cost dialup Internet access for travelers
- iPassConnect dialup, broadband, wireless for University travelers
Datacenter Service Downtime & Upgrades

June 25, 2005

Datacenter Upgrades

- New power resources provide increased service redundancy and protects critical applications
- NUIT will upgrade UPS (uninterruptible power supply) and generator at central Datacenter
- Services will be powered down at 6 p.m. on June 25, 2005, and may last 18-24 hours

Affected Services

- E-mail on NUIT central servers (merle, hecky, casbah & lulu)
- E-mail will be first service resumed after power is reconnected
- Northwestern.edu Web applications & pages
- NetID/Active Directory/LDAP system
- Complete list on NUIT Web site:
  www.it.northwestern.edu/transitions/2005/datacenter_shutdown.html

NUIT Windows 2000 Support Ending

August 31, 2005
Windows 2000 Support Ending

- Microsoft ending Windows 2000 support June 30, 2005
- All Windows 2000 users should upgrade PC systems to Windows XP
- Fewer than 10% use Windows 2000
- NUIT will no longer centrally support Microsoft Windows 2000 systems
- August 31, 2005

Windows XP Upgrade

- NU Departments: Upgrade through Microsoft volume purchase agreement
- NU Students: Special rate offered through Microsoft’s Student Select Program
- See NUIT’s Software Web site for more information: www.it.northwestern.edu/software/

Windows ‘Longhorn’

- Microsoft’s ‘Longhorn’ project is the next generation of Windows
- Expected release in 2006
- Departments should consider Longhorn’s increased requirements when purchasing new computers
- More information from Microsoft: www.microsoft.com/windows/longhorn/

Questions?
Next Tech Talk:
Fall, 2005

See NUIT Web site for more:
www.it.northwestern.edu