**Transcript: NU-BAYU: Google Bus Visits NU, October 6, 2008**

**Sherry:** Hi, my name is Sherry Minton. I work with NUIT Communications, and I’m here with Miriam Schneider of Google, and the Google Bus has arrived on campus, and Miriam, tell us what you do at Google and why you’re here.

**Miriam:** Sure. So I am an associate product marketing manager on the Google Ops for Education team, and we are here bringing the Google Bus to Northwestern on our last stop of our out-to-school cross country road trip, where we’ve been visiting ten schools across the US who are using Google Apps.

**Sherry:** And what kind of information do you hope to gather from the students?

**Miriam:** We’re really hoping to kind of hear from students about how they’re using these tools and what they’re hoping to get that these tools aren’t yet providing. We hope to take this info back to our development teams and continue building products that work and make their lives easier.

**Sherry:** And what kind of comments are you hearing today?

**Miriam:** We’ve heard a lot of good things about students using Calendar and Gmail and a lot of interest and excitement about Google Docs and Google Sites, so students are usually familiar with Calendar and Gmail but don’t really know of the possibilities that are presented with Google Sites and Google Docs, so a lot of enthusiasm.

**Sherry:** Well the students were really an integral part of bringing this to campus because they told us they’re using Gmail anyway. So we started this about a year ago. What comes with our @u.northwestern.edu domain?

**Miriam:** So, outside of just your Gmail account, you also get Google Calendar, Google Docs, and Google Sites, and basically all of those tools are new and different ways to work together with students that you share classes with, that you’re in student organizations with, as easy ways to create and collaborate documents together, to build up websites together, and to share your calendar and events with other people.

**Sherry:** So we’ve heard a couple of concerns about security, and people have asked us about that. How do you secure something that, when we go to a third party and it’s an off-site, how do we tell our people how secure this is?

**Miriam:** You know, at Google, we take privacy very very seriously, and it’s something that we strive to do very well. So all of that information is always yours, it’s always protected, and we never share it with anyone else, unless there’s some legal restriction by which we
have to oblige. But really, our priority is keeping your information safe and secure and keeping it yours, so that if you want it back at any time, it's yours for the taking.

**Sherry:** We're standing outside the Google Bus here. Tell me about the Google Bus. It's eco-friendly, and what else?

**Miriam:** Yes, it's eco-friendly, it's solar-paneled, so it powers all of our laptops on the road, which is important for us to somehow stay connected with the outside world, it also runs on biofuel, so we're trying to make this as environmentally friendly as possible. We've also offset our carbon emissions by donating our carbon tons to a small non-profit called liveclimate.org, which has funded a small non-profit in Nicaragua building solar panels for their community.

**Sherry:** Great, so some of the people that are working at the stations today, what are they finding out about?

**Miriam:** So, at the stations we have a student micro-site that's kind of, you know, helpful tools and tips and tricks for students to get started using Calendar, Gmail, Docs and Spreadsheets and Google Sites, and then we also a logged-in demo environment, so students can actually get in and see what collaboration is like, so all of these demo stations work together. There's an International Wildcats University so students can get in there and see what it's like to work on a document at the same time as somebody else that's not right at the same computer as them.

**Sherry:** And some students are finding about some possible job opportunities; what's it like to work at Google?

**Miriam:** Working at Google is really, just, so fun. I mean, you get to do things like this, which I don't think would be possible at many other companies in the world. You work with a really talented, smart group of people. Everyone's really driven and motivated and fun, so it's a great place to be.

**Sherry:** Great! Well thank you so much for coming today. We're so happy with our partnership with Google, and we thank you for coming to our campus.

**Miriam:** Well thank you for having us and inviting us with such open arms on campus. We're really happy to be here and end the tour at Northwestern.

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