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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NUIT introduces the "next generation" of Internet access for University travelers

Whether you are half-way around the world or down the street at your local Starbucks, connecting to the Internet or the Northwestern network has never been easier.

Northwestern University Information Technology (NUIT) introduced iPassConnect over the summer as a new service for faculty and staff who need Internet access for business purposes while traveling or otherwise off-campus. With over 19,000 access points in 160 countries, iPassConnect offers the University community with more than just traditional dial-up service.

"With iPassConnect, you can get economical Internet access in airports, hotels, and virtually anywhere in the world through your computer with dial-up, broadband, or wireless service," said Wendy Woodward, director of NUIT Technology Support Services.

iPassConnect introduces a new era of connectivity options for the University community and takes over as the new and more advanced alternative to the former traveler modem pool service that ceased operations on September 1, 2004 and the central modem pool, which faces retirement in August 2005.

“The demand for modem pool services has declined as users increasingly turn to high-speed connections that the modem pools simply cannot provide, “said Woodward. "The use of iPassConnect will allow travelers to take advantage of faster connections through broadband and wireless access where available."

Wireless connectivity through iPassConnect currently supports access for users with 802.11b wireless cards. Limited access for the 802.11g standard (which is an option in the newer models of laptops) is available depending on the access point location.

The iPassConnect service is available on a per-month basis. There is a monthly fee of $10.00 on top of any usage fees incurred. Usage fees depend on whether you are using dial-up, wireless or wired service, and where you are.

NUIT recommends that University iPassConnect customers use VPN (Virtual Private Network) when accessing the Internet from off-campus to ensure that information is transmitted in a secure fashion.
All requests for subscription to iPassConnect must come from a dean, vice president, department head, director, or administrator and e-mailed to NUIT Consulting Services (consulting-services@northwestern.edu) with the user name, NetID, and a valid CUFS account number.

For more iPassConnect information, including usage fees and information on the termination of the central modem pool in 2005, please visit: <http://www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus/ipass/>

For additional questions, please contact the NUIT Support Center at 847-491-HELP (4357) or e-mail consultant@northwestern.edu.