Introductions

Old Business

Peer-to-peer file sharing (Tom Board)
Because the lawsuits by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) affecting
universities continue to make news, Tom wanted to update the committee on Northwestern's status. Northwestern has not changed anything technically or policy-wise. NUIT has stepped up its education efforts through e-mail and occasional ads in the Daily Northwestern.

**NetReg changes (Mark Reynolds)**

NetReg is a system that gives a computer a temporary IP address. Because of August's virus outbreaks, the functionality of NetReg has been expanded to scan systems for vulnerability to viruses. Users who do not pass the scan are directed to internal websites so that they can download and apply required updates to their systems. Students will re-register every quarter and will be directed as future needs require.

Tom added that NetReg was very successful and that other universities had major network problems at the beginning of the school year. NetReg may be extended across the University.

**CAESAR version 8 deployment (Mark Reynolds)**

Mark discussed the problems associated with rolling out the current version of CAESAR. NUIT is aware of the issues and has provided feedback to the developers of the system. Reasons for the upgrade include eliminating the need for client software through a web-based system, and expanding both back- and front-end functionality. Students are encouraged to provide feedback to caesar@northwestern.edu.

**Wireless handheld devices (Mark Reynolds)**

The prices of PDAs have gone down while functionality has improved. NUIT is working on providing VPN software to work with wireless PDAs. Palm devices can use the Movian VPN client. Pocket PCs will soon be able to use Movian as well. Pocket PC now comes pre-loaded with VPN software, but this software doesn't talk to the NU network properly yet. NUIT is working with Cisco to change that, and we should know more about the Movian VPN for Pocket PC 2003 and the built-in capability within a few weeks. Students thought that it seems useful, but that wireless handheld devices are still expensive.

**NUTV changes (Wendy Woodward)**

"NU Channel 1," or NUCH1, currently serves as a placeholder to update students on campus events. The second phase, display of scheduled content, is targeted for deployment in January, 2004. NUIT has joined with Student Affairs to create this channel. The library will manage content showing. Down the road, NUCH1 can broadcast plays and other events.

Agreements with the City of Evanston and Comcast prohibit viewing NUTV off campus. In the future, HBO and other premium channels may be available on a subscription basis, but implementing this is going more slowly than anticipated. Greek houses can now subscribe to NUTV. They must have proper wiring and are charged per head. For licensing purposes, every port in the house has to be activated.
CSPAN I & II are provided at no additional cost to students because of an agreement with them to provide the channels over Internet2 to prove it can be done. Internet2 is a higher bandwidth inter-institutional network.

**Federal "Do-not-call list" (Wendy Woodward)**
Students can subscribe (or unsubscribe) to the list freely with their residence hall phone numbers.

**MediaWorks update (Bob Taylor)**
Good digital cameras can be checked out from MediaWorks by students only. This service was initially delayed to resolve issues of loss or damage, but equipment has been available since April. Students must show their WildCard, use their NetID and sign a form. See what is available at [http://database.at.northwestern.edu/p/cam/](http://database.at.northwestern.edu/p/cam/).

Free classes were offered on digital media topics, but few people attended. Bob encouraged advice on the best way to offer these classes. What is important to learn at what point in the year? He is also looking to hire students to support the equipment.

**Reports:**

**AT computer lab upgrades (Bob Taylor)**
Upgrades in the library labs now allow for greater digital music capabilities. The Deering Library now has a music listening lab. There is a long-term trend for more digital media activities supported in and by the library.

**Smart classrooms initiative (Bob Taylor)**
The University has allocated funds to make every classroom controlled by the Registrar a smart classroom with basic networking and projection capabilities. There will be 10 new smart classrooms by spring, and another 8-10 by summer. These rooms won't have resident PCs, so presenters will need to bring laptops.

**Mathematica software for NU students (Bob Taylor)**
NU negotiated a five-year contract to provide this computational algebra program to students through a university license. Initially driven by faculty research needs, Mathematica is now available to students for $35/year through the Virtual Store.

**Statistics on lab use (Bob Taylor)**
Labs are currently used by classes at only 50-75% of their capacity. Cresap is used the least - it closes before the other labs because late-night use dropped off there. By the end of the year, Academic Technologies will decide whether class activity there will be moved to the library. If so, the Cresap lab could be converted to social science research space or office space.

**Additional reports and discussion (Bob Taylor)**
AT has been helping various campus groups with ward redistricting maps.
FERPA (Family and Educational Rights and Privacy Act) may affect NU's course management system. Different registrars are interpreting the regulations differently. NU may need to seek approval from students before distributing their names for class rosters in Blackboard. Many classes use a class listserv or facilitate small group discussions through email. Students can already check a box in CAESAR to opt out of the campus directory.

Noah Levin raised the issue of keeping the Kresge Digital Media Studio (KDMS) open later. He asked if redundant software is available elsewhere. Bob believes the current schedule for KDMS is fine for now, but was interested in continuing to improve the library labs so they have the same software. He recommended following up with lab manager Tim King and faculty members.

**Wireless access deployment (Mark Reynolds)**
There are currently eight wireless access points on the Chicago campus and 32 on the Evanston campus. A list can be found at http://www.tss.northwestern.edu/wireless/locations.html. The newly finished Crowe Cafe has jacks and will eventually have wireless access inside and in the neighboring courtyard. More departments are requesting wireless access points. At the end of last year, 2,956 unique users had utilized the existing points at a rate of 400-700 people/day. This year, 3,471 unique users have already utilized these points at a rate of 600-1,000 people/day.

**New Business:**

**NUIT Annual Report (Wendy Woodward)**
This was distributed to students.

**NetID password self-reset (Mark Reynolds/Wendy Woodward)**
Before winter quarter, NUIT will allow students to associate a PIN with their NetID so they don't have to call or go to the Information Center for password resets. Students will need their student ID number (found on new WildCards) and their date of birth. Older WildCards have Social Security Numbers but can be exchanged at the WildCard office. PINs will be a minimum of four digits and a maximum of six; if someone enters it incorrectly three times in a row, he or she will not be able to use it for 24 hours.

**New online directory (Tom Board)**
A new directory web page may be rolled out as soon as winter quarter. Ph will be eliminated in December, 2004. The change will address privacy and permissions issues, exposing the minimum amount of information from the Registrar. In the past, it was possible to query people at other schools that use Ph, but this required a lot of maintenance and Ph is being phased out at many schools. When accessing Ph from off-campus, it is possible to log in and see the same amount of information you would see if you were on campus. Each application performing an authentication service will have to be registered with an NUIT IP address.
In response to student questions, Tom discussed snap, a metadirectory and ID management layer that will be around for a long time. He said that the technology to enable pictures to be associated with directory entries will be provided with the new directory system. This is being considered for faculty use with Blackboard. It could be generally available, although this is not currently in the works.

Student Affairs will make a policy on authenticated access for student groups. Structure is being added to insulate NetID passwords from applications. The snap proxy server does this, but some applications can't go through it because of what they do technically. The new online directory will be both secure and readily deployed.

"nwu.edu" retirement reminder (Tom Board)
After June 20, 2004, nobody will be able to receive mail at their alias@nwu.edu.

Plan-It Purple and HereAndNow transferred to Student Affairs (Mark Reynolds)
These sites were jointly sponsored by NUIIT and ASG, but it was decided that it is more appropriate for ASG to work with Student Affairs. This transition happened at the end of last year. Anyone who wants to give input on what's offered should talk to Cate Whitcomb, Assistant to the Vice President of Student Affairs.

Additional items (Adam Forsyth)
Adam brought up apparent duplication of efforts between CampusLink, which is offered in Norris; Plan-It Purple and HereAndNow; and NUCH1. He recommended that all three be connected through the same back-end (which is currently the case for NUCH1 and Plan-It Purple). CampusLink is run by a third-party vendor but events are entered separately from the other information sources.

Adam also offered positive feedback on the MediaWorks equipment check-out.

Adam brought up how the port-off page affects Norris. That is, there is no way to tell where the physical port is by looking at the range of IP addresses on the port-off page. NetReg currently does not maintain that information because it gets outdated quickly. Tom recommended deploying NetReg by NetID in Norris.

Lastly, Adam described a flaw in WebMail that creates a directory when someone uses a forward slash in an IMAP folder name. The directory can't be deleted, and all further folders are created in that directory. WebMail is a customization of a product purchased from Emu. The newest release, 5.2.7, is being customized now and the bug should be fixed. Saving to "sent items" folder also does not currently work.

Summary of Action Items:

- NUIIT will investigate whether or not it is feasible to put index cards to instruct people how to set up their wireless access next to the wireless access point signs. (NUIIT: Mark)
- Talk to KDMS lab manager to see if we need to extend the hours and look at replicating resources in library labs. (ASG: Noah)
- Resolve WebMail issues. (NUIT: Mark)
- NUIT will contact Metin Kale @ Norris to see if he would be interested in getting a PlanitPurple feed into CampusLinks. (NUIT: Mark)

Adjourn.