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NU INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RELEASES “GET CONTROL” WEB SITE

Junk (“spam”), email, computer viruses, network security, and Internet addiction, issues familiar to most computer users, are among the topics covered on a helpful new Web site from NU Information Technology (NUIT).

“Get Control” (www.it.northwestern.edu/getctrl/), subtitled “Internet Safety 101,” features information on the above issues as well as on other issues users face when using NU Net or the Internet.

“This site is being rolled out to the Northwestern community primarily in response to user concerns regarding the amount of ‘spam’ they’re receiving in their NU email accounts,” said Tom Board, director of NUIT Technology Support Services. “The other issues addressed are things that have been of ongoing concern to the community. In today’s computing environment, users have to stay aware of privacy and security issues on the network and Internet. For instance, if even one machine on the Northwestern network is compromised, it could mean serious repercussions for the entire University.”

“Get Control” includes tips and tools for faculty, staff, and students to assist them in maintaining productivity when online. For example, you can:

- learn how to reduce the amount of “spam” in email inboxes;
- discover effective ways to prevent computer viruses from invading;
- get helpful, common-sense tips on keeping a computer secure.

“Get Control” has numerous pointers to other relevant online resources, including sites about email scams and hoaxes, software sites with tools for Windows and Macintosh computers, the Norton AntiVirus site, NUIT Policies and Guidelines, NU counseling resources, and more.

In conjunction with the rollout of the “Get Control” site, NUIT is hosting a monthly series of free brown-bag sessions where you can learn more about protecting your email account and computer. For scheduling and registration, go to www.northwestern.edu/training/technology/classes.html and scroll down to “IT Knowledge at Noon.”