

TECHNICALLY Speaking

An Information Technology Publication • University of Louisville

Paving the way to 2020



In 2007 Dr. Priscilla Hancock, Vice President and Chief Information Officer for Information Technology, unveiled Information Technology's Strategic Plan 2020 with specific intention to align IT's goals with the themes outlined in President Ramsey's 2020 strategic plan.

First set of three year goals accomplished

To meet the strategic plan vision, IT created a specific three year action plan from which multiple ambitious goals were accomplished. The most visible goals, the recent creation of iTech Commons in Miller Information Technology Center (MITC) and the expansion of consulting and support services to the Health Science campus enhanced the support services offered to the students, faculty and staff.

Another major goal in the 2020 plan was to provide UofL researchers with a world-class research infra-

structure. IT worked diligently with a core group of researchers to develop and implement the desired infrastructure. In January 2009, UofL's new research super-computer was officially powered up.

To meet the needs of business administrators university-wide, IT upgraded PeopleSoft Financials to version 9.0. New, enhanced processes for budget management facilitated the business activities necessary to keep UofL operating efficiently.

Information Technology also had an eye for ever-increasing security needs at UofL. Implementation of a seamless virtual private network (VPN) provides access to computer information systems and university data using secure connections when off-campus. In addition, IT offers free access to hard disk encryption software to protect university machines from data theft.

Building momentum

IT met the first set of three year goals a year ahead of schedule and in the midst of the toughest economic climate the United States has seen in over twenty-five years. The previous successes prove that contrary to conventional wisdom, now is the best time to forge ahead with a new and equally ambitious set of three year goals to position UofL to move forward strategically when the economic climate improves.

Funded projects

Microsoft Exchange Migration

Over the next three years, IT will build the foundation for migrating to Microsoft Exchange email system. Once implemented, Exchange will bring industry-standard email functionality and capability to UofL students faculty and staff.

Human Resources/Student Administration System Upgrade

An upgrade in the student administration system will create a more user-friendly registration process complete with online advising. The human resource system upgrade will facilitate university business through a comprehensive reporting system and automated fiscal management controls.

Research Infrastructure Phase II

Now that UofL's super-computer Cardinal Research Cluster (CRC) is operational, IT is looking to expand the research

(Continued on page 2)

Volume 3, Issue 5

November 2009

Mark Your Calendar:

- November 13, 2009 - Get ready to rock! weROCK iMovie Fest awards show: iTech Zone at 4:00 p.m.
- November 25-27, 2009 - Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving! The IT HelpDesk will observe normal hours of operation (6 a.m. to 2 a.m.) during the Thanksgiving holiday.



Technology Tip:

Would you like to get more life out of you laptop battery? If you have a PC laptop, check out the tips available at <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/explore/conserves-battery.aspx> to extend the length of your battery charge.

Inside this issue:

- Get ready to rock! weROCK '09 iMovie Fest '09 awards show Nov. 13 **2**
- 'Work Without Your Mouse Day' a successful awareness event **2**

2020 (continued)

computing infrastructure to address researcher needs. In this phase IT is planning to expand computational capabilities and storage space, implement bioinformatics applications in support of the Clinical Translational Science Awards (CTSA), and pursue grant opportunities to expand UofL's cyberinfrastructure.

Student Technology Training

Partnering with REACH, Information Technology will implement new student technology training programs to ensure students have the technology skills necessary for academic success.

Projects pending funding

As with the initial set of three year goals, IT will not allow lack of funding to impede the progress of providing UofL with basic technology services. While some major projects in the three year plan are not currently funded, Dr. Hancock is pursuing funding sources to keep the goals on schedule.

Pervasive wireless

Today's students, faculty and staff are increasingly mobile, using laptops and mobile devices to conduct professional and academic activities. Pervasive wireless is a necessary component to the future success and productivity of the UofL community. Pervasive wireless will allow connectivity across all campuses.

Downtown Broadband Expansion

The University of Louisville has long been a supporter of the economic expansion of the Louisville area. IT aims to support that mission through expansion of the broadband network to include downtown educational resources such as Haymarket, Louisville Science Center, and the Muhammad Ali Center.

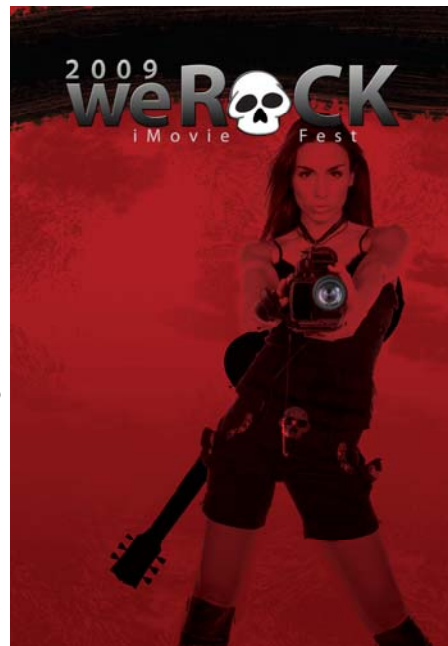
Join Information Technology in looking toward 2020. All of the new three year goals and timelines are outlined at <http://louisville.edu/it/threeyeargoals>. As always, stay tuned to *Technically Speaking* to for the latest updates in IT's progress toward 2020.

Get ready to rock! weROCK '09 iMovie Fest awards show Nov. 13

Friday the 13th, a day usually reserved for superstition, will be a day of rock on UofL's campus. weROCK that is. The second annual student iMovie film competition concludes with a screening and awards show on Friday, November 13 at 4:00 p.m. in iTech Zone (the lower level of Miller Information Technology Center).

weROCK iMovie Fest encourages students to communicate ideas through harnessing digital media skills such as videography and video editing. Last year, student film submissions focused on the theme of student life. This year, no subject matter guidelines exist, opening up the contest to

a wide range of topics. Given the artistic, clever and visually remarkable winning films in 2008, the campus community is certainly in for a treat.



Also new this year is the screening location. iTech Zone, the newly renovated computing center in MITC, houses a nine-screen video wall on which to showcase the winning films in high-definition video and surround sound audio.

The weROCK iMovie Fest is a joint partnership between Apple, the Delphi Center for Teaching and Learning, Ekstrom Library Digital Media Suite and Information Technology.

'Work Without Your Mouse Day' a successful awareness event

Individuals with upper-body mobility disabilities from conditions such as cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy or stroke may experience difficulties performing tasks many of us find routine, such as using a computer mouse. To make computers more accessible to these individuals, operating systems now come equipped with functions and keyboard shortcuts that enable users to work without the hindrance of a computer mouse.

To raise awareness about upper-body mobility disabilities and technology, IT recently sponsored Work Without Your Mouse Day. UofL students, faculty and

staff were encouraged to work without a mouse for 15 minutes using the functions and keyboard shortcuts existing on their computers. IT provided participants with documentation on how to use the functions and shortcuts at <https://louisville.edu/it/support/training/wwymd>. Participants were then asked to complete a survey about the experience.

One participant noted in the survey, "I think this is a great idea, and UofL should do more things like this to foster awareness." Thanks to all who participated. IT plans to sponsor more events like Work Without Your Mouse Day in the future.