



IU South Bend

Information Technologies

IT UPDATE

March 2006

At IU South Bend IT's all about you!

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend "Making IT Happen!," an event designed to increase awareness about the array of Information Technology (IT) tools and services available to the university community. The event also provides students a venue to showcase creative uses of IT that may have been a part of a class or personal project.

At Making IT Happen! you'll find:

- * free software and tech help,
- * how other students, faculty, and staff are using IT,
- * the latest in software, computers, cell phones, and more,
- * lots of free stuff, refreshments, and coupons,
- * a chance to win door prizes.



Making IT Happen! is an information technology fair held on each IU campus, brought to you by University Information Technology Services (UITS), the IU South Bend IT staff, and our technology partners.

At "Making IT Happen!" the university community can learn how at IU South Bend, "IT's all about you!"

10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.
At the Grille
Administration Cafeteria
March 22nd



MITH Photo by Kelly Eling 03/05

Portable Labs Now Available

IT recently acquired laptop computers to make two portable lab units available for classroom use. Each self-contained portable lab unit contains 16 laptops, a laser printer, and a wireless access point. One unit will be located in Wiekamp Hall and one in Northside Hall in order to accommodate classes in each building.

As we near the end of the semester these units may be useful for completion of online evaluations in the classroom as an alternative to reserving a computer lab. They can also be used for a one-time hands-on demonstration of the Internet or software applications. The laptops are currently built with Microsoft Office and Internet browsers.

Requests for the portable lab should be sent two weeks in advance to the Helpdesk (helpdesk@iusb.edu) giving the your name, and the course date, time, room, and number of students.



An instruction sheet is attached to each unit and a quick tutorial is available at checkout. Only faculty can reserve the units, and the instructor must be present while the cart is in use. This semester is the pilot for using the portable lab units, and we welcome your comments and suggestions in order to make these more helpful to you in the classroom environment.

Network Upgrades Coming Soon

Information Technologies is currently in the process of upgrading the core network infrastructure for the IU South Bend campus. This upgrade will give the campus network more fault tolerance and increase the backbone speed of the network to one gigabit.

IU South Bend is also getting a fiber connection to the St. Joe Valley (SJV) Metronet. The SJV Metronet is a high-speed network connecting several entities in the South Bend metropolitan area. Later this year, the SJV Metronet will allow IU South Bend to connect to the I-Light network. The I-Light network will provide more bandwidth to IUPUI (IUPUI provides access to the rest of the IU network and the Internet at large), as well as some much-needed redundancy.

The timetable for connecting to I-Light is the third or fourth quarter of 2006.

Wednesday Nights

Remember to leave your office computers powered ON, but logged OFF when you leave on Wednesday. IT uses this night to centrally install patches and system upgrades, in order to minimize interruption for you during the day.

We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our campus computers updated and secure.

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Beverly Church, Editor

Wireless Coverage

Information Technologies continues to develop wireless access throughout the campus. We are in the second phase of wireless implementation to broaden coverage beyond the public areas covered in the first phase. The intent is to provide coverage to offices and some difficult-to-reach areas.

This project is not without its limitations. Some buildings, especially Northside Hall and the Schurz Library, offer special challenges resulting from the type of building construction, lack of viable networking, book stacks, and lead lined walls. As such, some areas are simply not reachable presently.

In the Library, wireless is available on each floor toward the center areas. Northside Hall coverage has expanded greatly to include all of the second through the fourth floor and parts of the other floors. More development is currently underway in Northside Hall, but will be dependant on ongoing network upgrades and other factors.

Recent enhancements to wireless give the remaining buildings nearly 90% coverage with perhaps a few shadow spots as is typical with this type of service. Wireless access should only be considered a short term network connection for ordinary tasks such as email and web browsing. It is not intended as a replacement for wired networking as there are environmental factors which can cause disruption in service.

To view Information Technology's wireless guidelines, visit:
<http://www.iusb.edu/~sbit/wirelessguideshort.shtml>

Original Oncourse Use Extended Through Spring 2007

UITs announced in January that it will extend the timeline for running original Oncourse and Oncourse CL in parallel. This is in response to faculty concerns of needing more time to migrate teaching materials and become familiar with Oncourse CL's capabilities.

The extension means that spring 2007 will be the last semester that new courses can be put into original Oncourse through the opt-out process. However, course data created for Oncourse original will be preserved for only one year (until summer 2008) as originally planned.

The retirement of Oncourse Filemanager will continue as planned. Therefore faculty currently using Oncourse Filemanager should transition to Oncourse CL Resources by the end of this semester. A tool to migrate from Filemanager or CFS is available at the following web site:

<https://oncourse.iu.edu/migration/>

As in the past two semesters, all courses for future semesters will by default be in Oncourse CL. If you want to use original Oncourse you will need to opt out of Oncourse CL for each class.

For assistance with Oncourse CL please contact::

Sujie Man in UCET
sman@iusb.edu
520-4465

Notice to Faculty

The deadline for submitting your software to be installed in computer labs, computer classrooms, AND tech desks for Summer 1 and 2 is **March 31**.

Please give your software media and licensing information to Rebecca Hartman, NS 0067B, by that date to insure that it can be included in the build.

New Operations Programmer



Craig Schroeder joined the Information Technologies User Support Team as Operations Programmer in January of this year. Craig received a BS in Computer Science and a BA in Philosophy from Indiana University South Bend. He also has an MA in Divinity from the University of Chicago Divinity School. His career history includes 19 years of programming experience which provides a strong background for his responsibilities at IU South Bend.

Craig's primary duties as Operations Programmer include database design and maintenance. He reports to Dorothea Solymosi, Database Manager.

Beware!

Reports of "phishing" scams in email have continued. The scams are getting more and more believable and include official-looking emails from PayPal, Citibank, and even the IRS informing you of an additional tax refund – they just ask for your credit card number so they can credit the amount on your account.

NEVER give your social security number, credit card number, banking account number, or passwords in response to an email.



To find information regarding security on the internet visit the Information Technology home page and select Internet Security.