IU passphrases expiring

Passphrase expirations are coming to IU. Are you ready?

Starting September 10, IU will phase in expirations for any passphrase that is more than two years old. This change will apply to all students, faculty, and staff at IU’s eight campuses.

If you don’t change your passphrase by the deadline, you will immediately lose access to CAS-supported resources such as OneStart, ePTO, Oncourse, and Student Information Services. But don’t fret! Passphrase expirations will be enforced only via CAS, IU’s Central Authentication System. Network IDs will not be locked or disabled – meaning you will still be able to log in to non-CAS services, such as workstations, email, and VPN.

Why is this happening?

It’s pretty simple — old passwords and passphrases can jeopardize the security of personal and university data. Passphrase expirations help protect this data against hacking and misuse.

Why will passphrases expire every two years?

Some people think of passphrases as the keys to your car. Instead, think of them as oil for the engine. You can have one car key for a lifetime, but you need to change the oil periodically for optimal performance. The same goes for passphrases.

UITs’ official recommendation is to change your passphrase annually, which is similar to the recommendation of changing oil every 3,000 miles. Does 5,000 miles hurt? No. But 20,000 miles, or 4-5 years for a passphrase, is pushing it. However, two years is an ideal balance for keeping your data safe.

How do you change your passphrase?

You can reset your passphrase at any time with the Self-Service Passphrase Reset tool at: http://passphrase.iu.edu

Having trouble?

Visit the IU South Bend Support Center in Wiekamp Hall, room 1245. Call 520-5555, option 2, or email at helpdesk@iusb.edu.

Learn more about mandatory passphrase expirations at: http://uits.iu.edu/passphrase

UniCom transition continues

With the successful UniCom pilot stage completed, the UITS TeleCom team will now transition the campus into Phase 1. Below you will see the activation schedule by building.

The plan is to offer training sessions the month prior to the installation and activation of the UniCom devices. These sessions will be offered every Wednesday and Thursday alternating between morning and afternoon now through November 29.

Infoshares will also be scheduled every week on Fridays from 10:00 – Noon in NS0038. Infoshares will be an open session where you can come to learn more about UniCom/Lync, to ask questions, or to get more hands on experience with the TeleCom team there to answer your questions and to offer assistance.

It is recommended that you sign up for the UniCom training prior to your buildings activation schedule. To reserve your seat go online to: https://www.iusb.edu/unicom/ and schedule a day/time that works for you.

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Dear Campus Community,

It’s been a little over one year since I was honored to become part of the IU South Bend family and I am happy to report it has been a very fulfilling year of getting to know people and collaborating with campus colleagues to advance information technology services and support for faculty, students, and staff.

The UITS team has been very busy this past year updating and reinforcing the campus wireless network, installing classroom technology upgrades, upgrading and installing new videoconferencing equipment, and increasing student access to technology in the Library. With the consolidation of Instructional Media Services and Classroom Technology Services, support for departmental and specialized classrooms was initiated including the updating of technology in nine specialized classrooms. New projection and sound equipment was deployed in DW1001. The laptop option introduced to faculty was extended to staff at director level and above. Color printing for students was implemented in the library and student technology centers. The new campus website was launched in January 2012. This list represents the most notable and visible of the many accomplishments that are a tribute to the fine team of technology professionals at IU South Bend. Many thanks are due to our campus partners who supported and partnered with us to achieve many successes.

This coming year we look forward to working with the campus on several major initiatives. The migration of the campus telephone and voice mail systems to the University’s enterprise voice over IP communication system, UniCom, will touch every faculty and staff member. Training and migration schedules are listed online at UniCom.iusb.edu. We look forward to the Education and Arts Building opening in Fall 2013 and are working with the campus to install technology in general purpose classrooms and to equip the first IU South Bend experimental classroom in room 2102. This coming year we will focus on providing support for enterprise data system initiatives such as the implementation of Constituent Relationship Management (CRM) and Business Intelligence. In addition to support provided centrally for enterprise systems, support will be developed locally. Information will be available as we move forward with this initiative.

We are excited about collaborating with schools and departments to empower and support the success of faculty, students, and staff, and are ready to leverage the skills and expertise of UITS professionals across the state. Our goal is to provide expanded and distinctive information technology services and support for everyone at IU South Bend, and I sincerely appreciate your feedback.

All best wishes for a rewarding year,
Beth Van Gordon
Chief Information Officer
Meet the staff ...
Michael Fletcher, UITS Support Center Manager

At the Support Center (helpdesk@iusb.edu), we take all of the technology related calls for the campus, resolve what problems we can when they come in, and make sure the right staff are working on the issues that we are not able to take care of here in this office. That is just one part of my job however, I am also involved in a broad range of UITS functions and frequently participate on committees and project groups.

What do you like about working in IT at IU South Bend?
Not many people have opportunities to be involved with bleeding edge technology like I do in this position. I enjoy being able to test software, hardware, and operating systems before the general public. These pilot groups often allow me to provide feedback to folks who have direct contact with the product developers. I also have a great group of staff and coworkers which is a bonus, it makes coming in to work enjoyable.

What brought you to IU South Bend?
I started here as a student in 1990 taking advantage of the Michigan Reciprocity Scholarship they had back then (which allowed me to pay in-state tuition). This was the closest “Big” university I had access to being from small-town Michigan. I secured a job as a lab consultant in January of 1991, and have grown into this position.

What do you like to do in your free time (hobbies, interests)?
I have several small vegetable gardens going at home that I work on with my wife and kids. I enjoy camping, hiking, fishing, disc golf, and bicycling. I love playing pool but haven’t held a pool cue in 10 years.

Can you tell us something about yourself that might surprise others?
When I have time to play games on my computer at home I almost always still choose Nethack or Netrek which both date back to the 80s. Yeah, I know, what a geek.

Applications available through the cloud

IUanyWare is a client virtualization service available to Indiana University students, faculty, and staff. It provides a broad range of general-purpose and discipline-specific applications you can access and run from your desktop, laptop, or mobile device, regardless of your geographic location. With IUanyWare, you can use a web browser to run certain IU-licensed applications without having to install them on your computer or mobile device.

IUanyWare is available at https://iuanyware.iu.edu. IUanyWare uses a secure connection; to avoid misleading warning messages, be sure to use the https:// prefix.

My favorites ... Top 5 (Apple iOS) Apps from Dean Vicki Bloom

#1 Google Maps
I get lost even with my GPS, especially when it directs me down one way streets in downtown South Bend! That’s why I love my Google Maps app. It provides driving directions and searches for local businesses. It even remembers the addresses I’ve used in the past. And unlike my GPS, I can use two fingers to drag maps in different directions.

#2 Find My iPhone
A must for every iPhone owner. If you misplace your phone, this app will pinpoint its location on a map. What’s more, if your phone is buried under the couch cushions, the app will instruct your handset to blast a sound for two minutes at full volume — even if it’s set on silent mode.

#3 Dictionary!
What librarian, scholar, or student can be without a dictionary? 200,000 definitions (plus synonyms) stored on your iPhone — no wireless connection required! Free, but includes ads.

#4 ShopSavvy
Always looking for bargain? Then ShopSavvy is for you. Just look up products by bar code or by typing in a product name and this app tells you whether there’s a better deal to be had online or at another store nearby. The hardest part is remembering to use this app before heading to the register.

#5 Words with Friends
Up to now mobile games didn’t hold my interest. That changed after being introduced to the highly addictive Words with Friends. Players can take turns building words crossword puzzle style with an opponent in a manner similar to the classic board game Scrabble. I can compete with complete strangers or connect with my Facebook account to play against real friends. The game sends notification messages when it is my turn. You also can message opponents. Twenty games can be played simultaneously. Want to play?

Don’t forget the Schurz Library’s website has a mobile version: http://m.library.iusb.edu.
How do you use information technology in your work?

I use IT in just about everything I do at IU South Bend. One example is the use of audio and video technology to facilitate teaching and learning in my chemistry classes. I now make podcasts of virtually all my lectures. Most students take advantage of them; they download the lectures to their iPods and listen to them while commuting, while working out, or when up against challenging homework problems. Students tell me that my lectures occasionally come up on random shuffle of their music at parties. What could be better? This is further evidence that geeks have the most fun at parties. To accommodate an incapacitated student, we videotaped and archived a semester of lectures, but we found that other students were watching them too. Even so, I had >85% attendance in class, probably because the jokes are best heard live.

Several years ago, I worked with Jim Yocom and Joe Haase to make videos of some of the more complicated chemistry lab procedures. Students used the videos on iPods (iTouches back then) to use while they were actually doing the procedure in lab. At the time, this was cutting edge stuff; we were the forerunners of instructional videos on Youtube. The videos were very professionally done; we still use them in our chemistry lab courses.

Tell us about a positive experience you have recently had with UITS (IT).

I love working with IT and IMS. As soon as I walk into IMS and ask a question, IT people start congregating around to bat around ideas on how to solve my IT problems. They know the latest advancements, and even more importantly, they can give important insights into the pros and cons of various products and solutions. They are generous in loaning equipment (mikes, recording devices, the right cables, etc.), and they’ve spent many hours troubleshooting or helping edit video clips. However, what I’m most impressed with is their sincere interest in what’s best for the students and learning outcomes.

PC or MAC?

I use both. I have a PC in my office, and I use a MAC at home and on the road. Of course, it’s annoying to mix up Ctl-S and Cloverleaf-Shift-S, but it’s good to be bilingual.

What technology can you not live without and why?

My iPhone. I love that everything on the iPhone is in one place, including email access, internet access, maps (with satellite and street view), calendar, to do lists, contacts, weather maps, alarm clock, lab timer, airline boarding passes, etc. etc. I no longer carry a purse.

How will your relationship with technology change in the next 5 years?

I hope that my relationship with Siri improves. Right now, she and I have a definite communication problem.

The ready access to internet resources has changed both the way I teach, and how students approach problems. As students become more sophisticated in finding technical answers, I become more imaginative in coming up with problems that have to be solved by critical thinking. This is good for both of us, and I expect that will continue for at least 5 years.

Who knows in what other directions things will go? Technology changes quickly, but it’s hard to predict what’s a fad and what will be enduring. Just as our groundbreaking lab videos became pretty much standard practice within just a couple years, what we think of now as cool technology will either become lost as an ephemeral fad or become expected on the most basic of devices.

Online file sharing and storage just got easier and more secure at Indiana University. Internet2, of which IU is a member, and Box have partnered to provide early adopter institutions with an enterprise (university-wide) data storage service that is secure, easily accessible and makes collaboration a breeze.

All current IU students, faculty, and staff are eligible for a Box account. Each account includes 50GB of storage for personal files and nonsensitive information. Box is not acceptable for any institutional data classified as “limited access/restricted” or “critical.”