CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

Outreach, Training, and Documentation

CNS Document ID: u001114a
Last Updated: 11/01/00

UF Information Technology

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Outreach, Training, and Documentation

It's been another busy year, as NERDC staff provided and received plenty of learning opportunities, and continued to expand the resources to help make computing easier.

Outreach and Training

Ready or not, Year 2000 (Y2K) happened. Jim Arnette, NERDC’s Y2K coordinator, met frequently with campus groups to ensure a smooth transition to the year 2000. His efforts included assisting users in testing their programs in a logical partition set to a date in Y2K to ensure their programs ran correctly.

NERDC staff helped enhance UF's Gartner offerings by implementing a search engine for the Gartner research databases. This allows UF faculty, staff, and students easier access to the Gartner Research analyses on a wide range of information technology topics. Other enhancements included making the Gartner Decision Drivers available and installing Talking Technologies. You can find this information at http://netg.ufl.edu/gartner.html.

In addition, the NETg library of over 600 computer-based training courses became available. The topics, ranging from introductory courses for novice users to certification courses for information technology professionals, can be accessed at http://netg.ufl.edu.

NERDC Assistant Director David Pokorney was active in Internet2 and wireless projects. As the University of Florida's lead technical contact for I2, he has been meeting with the user community to discuss how they may utilize the Abilene network that enables applications that can't be supported over the commodity Internet. He is working with the UF I2 Applications Coordinator Dr. Sue Legg and others throughout campus to help identify areas that need additional network retrofit to make use of the high performance network. I2 applications include video conferencing, moving large data files, and other forms of collaborative work that requires the high performance Internet2 network.

Network Services Engineer Bruce McIntosh received his Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) certification in July, and also attended the Cisco Internet Troubleshooting (CIT) class in May.

Vicki Kitts-Turner, NERDC Information Services coordinator, facilitated "IT Day," in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Information Officer. The theme of the two-day event was "What the Heck is Going On Around Here?" and it provided faculty, staff, and students with a variety of sessions to help them get caught up on the many activities in information technology on campus.

Network Security Coordinator Kathy Bergsma coordinated Information Technology Security Awareness (ITSA) Day in October. Sponsored by the Office of the Provost, this event featured speakers from UF departments, vendors, and the Florida State Prosecutor's Office who emphasized the need for secure, safe networks and provided LAN administrators and others with tools and techniques for securing them.

Gregory Goddard, in Network Services, participated in Supercomputing '99 in Portland, Oregon, which included SCinet99, an on-site network designed and built specifically for the conference. Further, Network Services, along with Telecom and CIRCA, began working with groups across the UF campus to test an IP telephony solution from Cisco called AVVID
In addition, many other NERDC staff participated in local events throughout the year, including the annual New Faculty Orientation, the College of Engineering student orientation, EAGLE classes, and others, as well as provided support for GatorLink, ISIS, and EAGLE.

NERDC staff also worked with the UF College of Medicine and other UF departments to present this year's booth at the Florida Government Technology Conference in Tallahassee. FGTC is an annual event to demonstrate the use of technology in governmental agencies, and the UF booth featured Technology in Education.

NERDC staff continued its ongoing commitment to user groups by meeting regularly with the NERDC Instruction and Research Users' Committee, the Network Advisory Committee, and others. We encourage you to participate in these meetings and make your computing needs known to us.

**Documentation**

NERDC Information Services staff spent a busy year writing new manuals and tutorials, and revising existing ones in DOCWEB, NERDC's online documentation database. New offerings include: D0130 [http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu/docs/d0130/d0130.html], *Obtaining Hit Counts for your NERDC WWW Page* D0123 [http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu/docs/d0123/d0123.html], *Controlling & Restricting Access to Web Pages on NERSP* D0121 [http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu/docs/d0121/d0121.html], *CGI Programs on NERSP* Documents that were substantially revised include: D0122 [http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu/docs/d0122/d0122.html], *Putting Your World Wide Web Pages on NERDC* D0030 [http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu/docs/d0030/d0030.html], *IOF: The Interactive Output Facility* D0037 [http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu/docs/d0037/d0037.html], *TSO Introduction* D0040 [http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu/docs/d0040/d0040.html], *ISPF at NERDC* D0089 [http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu/docs/d0089/d0089.html], *ISPF: Introduction to the ISPF Editor* D0009 [http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu/docs/d0009/d0009.html], *General Information: NERDC Software and Software References* All of these can be found at http://docweb.cns.ufl.edu.

In addition, Information Services published its monthly newsletter, *Update*; the NERDC Annual Review; *Guidebook* for new users; and many brochures and handouts, all of which can be found via the NERDC home page at http://www.cns.ufl.edu. Plus, Network Services provided a new Web page to assist campus LAN managers with security issues. Whether you are a novice in this area or a seasoned veteran, you can find helpful information at http://net-services.ufl.edu/~security.

**Resources**

- NERDC Home Page: http://www.cns.ufl.edu
- NETg Training courses: http://netg.ufl.edu [http://netg.ufl.edu]
• NERDC Instruction & Research User's Committee: http://nersp.cns.ufl.edu/~ircomm
• Network Services Security Info: http://net-services.ufl.edu/~security

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all UFIT documentation. Please send your comments to:

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