CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

Gator Day Points to Technology at the Capitol

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UF Information Technology

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| Rocky Essex of NERDC pauses for a picture with Albert during the Gator Day festivities in Tallahassee. | Alberta and Albert welcome visitors to Gator Day at the Capitol in Tallahassee on March 6, 2002. |

The Florida Legislature honored the University of Florida during UF Gator Day at the state capitol on March 6. The event featured representatives from IFAS, the UF Brain Institute, College of Nursing, College of Dentistry, College of Veterinary Medicine, College of Education, the Center for Performing Arts, Registrar/Admissions, Information Technology, university officers and members of the board of trustees, Head Football Coach Ron Zook, and UF mascots Albert and Alberta.

"It was an interesting example of citizens and state organizations getting to interact with government in action," said Marie Dence, associate director of NERDC. She, along with Mark Trammell, UF Web administrator, and Rocky Essex, senior computer programmer analyst, went to Tallahassee to help represent UF's Office of Information Technology (OIT) and NERDC.
UF Vice Provost for Information Technology Dr. Chuck Frazier (left), NERDC Associate Director Marie Dence (center), and UF Web Administrator Mark Trammell (right) are pictured at the UF/OIT booth at Gator Day.

The OIT display at Gator Day focused on ways that technology housed or run by the UF Office of Information Technology is used throughout the state to support education. Some examples include: the Digital Worlds Institute, FACTS, FASTER, FCLA, FIRN, FSBD, GriPhyN, I2, PGL, and SCInet. See the next page for more information about these technology initiatives.

During Gator Day, events included attendance at Legislative meetings by UF representatives, speeches in the Legislative Chambers, a luncheon, and a reception.

"Since the focus of our display was UF and NERDC's participation in statewide educational technology initiatives, it was valuable to talk to people who have this broader interest and responsibility," Dence said.

The daylong event was held in Tallahassee at the Capitol's rotunda.

"This was a wonderful opportunity to assist UF in showcasing online learning at work facilitating our students and researchers in their educational endeavors," said Dence.

For more information on these statewide educational IT initiatives supported in part by UF OIT, please refer to the URLs below. For more information about UF, go to www.ufl.edu [http://www.ufl.edu]. For an on-line copy of the handout, go to www.it.ufl.edu/events/gatorday [http://www.it.ufl.edu/events/gatorday].

Digital Worlds Institute: http://www.digitalworlds.ufl.edu

The Digital Worlds Institute exists to nurture leading edge
research and education between engineering and the arts, utilizing the tools of digital technology and culture.

**FACTS:**  
[http://www.facts.org](http://www.facts.org)  
Florida Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students (FACTS) is your central web resource for planning and managing your higher education experience.

**FASTER:**  
[http://www.firn.edu/faster](http://www.firn.edu/faster)  
The Florida Automated System for Transferring Educational Records, and SPEEDE/ExPRESS (Standards for Postsecondary Education Electronic Data Exchange/Exchange of Permanent Records Electronically for Students and Schools) are sets of predefined data formats used to electronically exchange student records and transcripts among educational institutions.

**FCLA:**  
[http://www.fcla.edu](http://www.fcla.edu)  
The Florida Center for Library Automation provides computer services that assist the SUS libraries in their daily operations and record keeping as well as providing students and faculty with electronic access to scholarly materials.

**FIRN:**  
[http://www.firn.edu](http://www.firn.edu)  
The Florida Information Resource Network (FIRN) is an extensive network which electronically links all of Florida's public education entities to computing resources which serve public education.

**FSBD:**  
[http://www.fsbd.com](http://www.fsbd.com)  
The Florida School Book Depository is a private organization maintained to serve Educational Publishers by efficiently distributing a variety of K-12 instructional materials only in the state of Florida.

**GriPhyN:**  
[http://www.griphyn.org](http://www.griphyn.org)  
The Grid Physics Network
project brings together an outstanding team of information technology (IT) researchers and experimental physicists to provide the IT advances required to enable Petabyte-scale data intensive science in the 21st century.

I2: [http://www.internet2.edu](http://www.internet2.edu)
Internet2 is a consortium being led by over 190 universities working in partnership with industry and government to develop and deploy advanced network applications and technologies, accelerating the creation of tomorrow’s Internet.

PGL: [http://www.pgl.ufl.edu](http://www.pgl.ufl.edu)
The Partnership in Global Learning is an unprecedented initiative, international in scope, designed to produce technologically enhanced and distributed learning on a global scale.

SCinet: [http://scinet.supercomp.org](http://scinet.supercomp.org)
SCinet is the network which is built each year at the International Conference for High Performance Computing and Communications which is co-sponsored by ACM and the IEEE Computer Society, and for the duration of the show, is the "world's fastest network."

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**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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