CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

March Information Technology Orientation Lively

UF Information Technology

UFIT

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March Information Technology Orientation Lively

Information Technology Orientation for new University of Florida employees was held on March 3, 2005, in room 316, Stadium West. Designed to give those attending an overview of services available to UF IT employees, the sessions often become a place for lively discussion among both new and not-so-new employees who come to see what’s new in the IT world.

Marie Dence, Associate Director of CNS

What is your role?

That was a question that was asked several times over at the March IT Orientation session. Dence, who acted as a Master of Ceremonies, explained that the idea was to make sure everyone in IT knew the answers to these questions:

- Where do I go for information?
- What is available?
- What do new folks need to know?
- What's the organization of IT at UF?

These questions were answered by representatives from a variety of units on campus.

And just to make sure everyone was listening, Dence offered pop quizzes between speakers. Correct answers to questions about the previous speaker’s talk earned participants a candy bar!

Dan Miller, Networking

Among the speakers was Dan Miller of Computing & Networking Services. Your role re: Networking? If you're an UF IT employee, Miller said that role is to maintain your local network in compliance with UF Policies and Procedures, and to keep your network from being compromised or compromising other campus networks.

Miller noted the huge variety of networks that come together on campus. Among these are the Internet, Internet2, Florida Lambda Rail (new!), Department of Housing Ethernet (DHNet), HealthNet, Florida Information Resource Network (FIRN), Networking to the Wall-Plate (new!), Dial-up, Virtual Private Networks (VPN), campus core network infrastructure, wireless and walkup network support, and Voice Over IP Telephony (VoIP).

For more information on Networking Services, see http://net-services.ufl.edu. [http://net-services.ufl.edu]

Fran McDonell and Tom Cassarly: Central
Applications, Services, and Resources

Fran McDonell of Academic Technology [http://www.at.ufl.edu/] (AT), and Tom Cassarly of Information Systems [http://www.is.ufl.edu/] say that your role is to be aware of central applications, ensure that workstations can use them, serve as a reference point with respect to the applications, and honor their security and access permissions.

Among the services administered by AT are GatorLink Accounts and IDs, GatorLink E-mail Services, Academic Web Page Development, GatorDex Directory Services, Obtaining Software, Video & Collaboration Services, and others. Learn more at http://www.at.ufl.edu.

Vinnie Taranto: Usability, Accessibility, Disability, Mobility, Universability, and IT...ability

Vinnie Taranto, Technology Specialist from the Dean of Students Office, emphasized the importance of usability and accessibility in computing at UF. He defined usability as the extent to which a product can be used by specified users to achieve specified goals with effectiveness, efficiency, and satisfaction in a specified context of use. Similarly, he said accessibility means that content can be navigated and read (and understood) by everyone, regardless of location, experience, or the type of computer technology used.


Kathy Bergsma, UF IT Security Manager

Kathy Bergsma, UF IT Security Manager, spoke about Campus-Wide Security Policies and where to find them. She also discussed how to be in compliance with the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) [http://www.it.ufl.edu/policies/aupolicy.html], and she explained the need to be constantly vigilant with software patches, virus software and firewalls. More information can be found at http://infosec.ufl.edu. Your role? Bergsma said: be familiar and comply with security policies and procedures; educate your users; and report problems to ensure the integrity and reliability of systems under your control.

For more information on security, see http://infosec.ufl.edu.

Bryan Garey, Training and Development Manager, Human Resources

Your role: Take advantage of many training opportunities on campus.

Bryan Garey, Training and Development Manager, Human Resources, presented a host of services and training opportunities available to staff and faculty for free. He talked about courses available through the Center for Instructional Research and Computing Activities [http://www.circa.ufl.edu] (CIRCA), the Center for Technology in Training [http://www.citt.ufl.edu/] (CITT), The Computer Challenge [http://www.it-train.ufl.edu/], the Division of Continuing Education [http://www.doce.ufl.edu/], and NETg [http://netg.ufl.edu]. NETg is a computer-based program that has more than 850 classes available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for free! In addition, Human Resources offers programs like the Supervisory
Allan Pither, Special Projects Manager, CNS
Resources and Contacts

Allan Pither, Special Projects Manager at CNS, wrapped up this information-packed session by giving links to find all this information. This site, http://www.cns.ufl.edu/resources, is a one-stop shopping link for IT information at UF.

For More Information on Peer2Peer

You can get more information on Peer2Peer, including archived presentations, at http://www.at.ufl.edu/p2p/index.html.

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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