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The **UM Tech Brief** is a resource for University of Minnesota technical support staff and department and unit decision makers.

Security and Internet Services

[Security home](#)

SPAM AND VIRUS STATS.

Jan 1-29:

55,159,156 Total recipients encountered
15,114,944 Accepted (27%)
283,859 Permitted through block (0.5%)
23,505,688 Blocked (43%)
10,881,544 Greylisted/Rate-limited (20%)
5,032,273 User unknown or inactive (9%)
108,238 Relay attempt denied (0.2%)

Of the e-mail accepted, 9503 messages were dropped due to containing a virus.

INTERNET PASSWORD POLICY REVISION.

E-mail notifications to all University accounts were sent out indicating a revision to the Internet password policy. Internet passwords will now expire one year after they are set rather than having an indefinite lifetime. Those who need to change their password will receive notifications at a later date. More information about Internet passwords and copies of these notices can be found at: <http://1help.umn.edu/password.html>.

Network and Telecommunication Services

[NTS home](#)

GOPHER MESSAGING WEBSITE COMMENDATION.

The OIT units of NTS and UTTC received commendation for providing electronic training for communications technology for the following Gopher Messaging websites by the Association for Communications Technology Professionals in Higher Education (ACUTA):

<http://uttc.umn.edu/training/tutorials/go4msg/index.html>
<http://www1.umn.edu/nts/go4msg>
<https://breeze5.umn.edu/p11905370>

These web pages were selected by ACUTA for content delivery, timeliness, ease of use, accessibility, and being graphically pleasing. ACUTA is an international non-profit educational association serving Colleges and Universities, and representing nearly 2000 individuals at 825 institutions with members ranging from small schools and community colleges to the 50 largest U.S. institutions.

STE-SDB UPGRADE OFFER.

NTS is offering to exchange currently installed STE-SD telephones with our new STE-SDB telephone for the replacement cost of the set, and will waive installation fees. Customers must return their existing STE-SD telephone to NTS in working condition and will pay NTS \$87.00 for the upgraded phone. To order an upgrade, go to the NTS web site, visit Order Services, and select the Change Request Form.

Academic and Distributed Computing Services

[ADCS home](#)

NEW COURSE! NETFILES: BASICS.

Want some hands-on practice with NetFiles, the University's new secure file storage and collaboration service? This course will explore the basics of securely sharing and collaborating on files with University and non-University users alike. Learn how to set access permissions for shared files, use versioning to track changes, and more! Go to <http://uttc.umn.edu> and check out "What's New."

VISTA UPGRADE AND OFFICE 2007.

The U of M anticipates Microsoft Vista Upgrade and Office 2007 media will become available to students in May through the Microsoft Campus Agreement program. Students must be enrolled in at least one credit at the time of availability in May to be eligible to order the new software. Please see the UCS website (www.umn.edu/ucs) for updates as Microsoft makes them available.

COMPUTER HELP FOR HIRE.

Computer freezing up? Need antivirus software installed? See UCS for U-Rent-a-Guru assistance for your computer: www.umn.edu/ucs

LAPTOP CHECKOUTS.

Students, faculty, and staff can check out a laptop for overnight, one weekend, or an extended period of time. Dells and Gateways have wireless capabilities. See UCS (www.umn.edu/ucs) for details.

Digital Media Center

[DMC home](#)

FEB 7: DMC ST PAUL OFFICE REOPENS IN 69 MCNEAL HALL.

The Digital Media Center St. Paul office moved from its temporary location in 50 Coffey Hall and reopened in 69 McNeal Hall on February 7. See: <http://dmc.umn.edu/facilities/>.

FEB 11, 18, 25: TECH TALK EPISODES.

Host Susan McKinnell and guest experts will discuss Computer Security, E-Government, and New Operating Systems: Sundays, 9 - 9:30 p.m., TPT Channel 17. QuickTime and Real Player video and podcasts of the episodes will be available the day after airing. See: <http://techtalk.umn.edu>.

FEB 13 DEADLINE: 2007 TEL GRANT PROPOSALS.

Instructors can receive significant financial support to develop, implement, and evaluate a substantial educational technology project with the support of a group of peers that meets periodically throughout the year. Proposals are due Feb 13. See: <http://dmc.umn.edu/grants/>.

FEB 14 EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGISTS FORUM MEETING: WEBCT POWERLINKS.

Jenise Rowekamp and Pablo Viedma (CLA Language Center) and Cristina Lopez (DMC, OIT) will demonstrate WebCT Vista "Powerlinks" to Wimba Voice Tools and Turnitin plagiarism protection services and discuss pedagogical advantages: Feb 14, 3 - 4:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library. See: <http://dmc.umn.edu/etf/schedule06.shtml>.

FEB 15 TEL SEMINAR: DESIGNING EFFECTIVE BLENDED LEARNING EXPERIENCES.

Panelists will discuss targeting activities for online delivery, evaluating technology options, and managing the course redesign process: Feb 15, noon - 1:30 p.m., 155 Peters Hall. The seminar also will be Webcast live via Breeze Meeting and later podcast. See: <http://dmc.umn.edu/series/spring07.shtml#1>.

FEB 20 DEADLINE: 2007-08 DMC FACULTY FELLOWSHIP PROPOSALS.

Instructors can receive \$20,000 for release time to participate in biweekly seminars at which fellows explore technology, learning, and teaching issues, share project outcomes and research findings, and develop leadership and scholarship skills. Proposals are due Feb 20. See: <http://dmc.umn.edu/fellowship/>.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAM TAKES THE LEAP INTO HYBRID LEARNING.

Many instructors make a gradual shift to hybrid learning when they begin to use course management software. But Program in Occupational Therapy instructors are making a more dramatic leap by creating the field's first entry-level hybrid master's degree program. See: <http://dmc.umn.edu/projects/schaber/>.

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