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No contacts? No links? No problem: send your inquiries and comments to oitbrief@umn.edu.

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

Security and Internet Services

SPAM AND VIRUS STATS.

April 2008

Attempted 84 million
Accepted 21 million (25%)
Blocked 44 million (53%)
User unknown 9 million (10%)
Grey-listed 10 million (12%)

Unauthorized access 28 million (64%)
Spam source 4 million (8%)
Dynamic 1 million (3%)
Insecure 8 million (19%)
Protocol violation 1 million (2%)
DNS problems 2 million (4%)

Anti-virus software caught 3119 messages.

Academic Computing

WIRELESS UPGRADE

Starting on Thursday, May 15, OIT field staff will begin cutting over buildings on the Twin Cities campus to the new wireless network. On the day that a building is being cut over, you should expect some outages with wireless Internet service. If you would like to see when a particular building is scheduled to be cut over, view the schedule on www.umn.edu/wireless/about/upgrade/UpgradeSchedule/index.

E-MAIL FRAUD/PHISHING ALERT FOR U ACCOUNTS

Recently, another wave of fraudulent U of M look-alike e-mails asking for personal and confidential information was sent to some University e-mail account holders. These e-mails are not from the University, and you should not respond to them or click any links or attachments contained in them. The University will never ask you to provide your password or other personal information by e-mail. If you receive any such messages, report them to abuse@umn.edu and delete them. See www.safecomputing.umn.edu for more information.

UMART GOING GREEN

In response to reader surveys and in the interest of going 'green,' UMart will be an online-only OIT news publication beginning in August. The final printed version will be the June issue. The online notification Tech Brief will be published through July and will be combined with the new online publication in August. More details about the new online publication will be available in the June issue of UMart. To subscribe, send e-mail to techpub@umn.edu. Send comments and questions to oca@umn.edu.

SAFEASSIGN TO REPLACE TURNITIN

Beginning mid May, SafeAssign will replace Turnitin as a resource that instructors can use to either detect incidents of plagiarism or confirm suspected plagiarism and identify improperly used or cited source material. SafeAssign is conveniently built into the existing WebVista course management structure. More information will be available at <http://webvista.umn.edu> in the coming weeks.

SENT MAIL, TRASH AUTO-FILING TO BEGIN

During the next several weeks, e-mail administration plans to begin auto-filing the Sent and Trash folders of e-mail accounts more than 40MB in size and more than 90 days old. Those messages automatically will be moved to a folder in the user's e-mail client called "AutoFiled." Affected users will be contacted by e-mail before their account is auto-filed. Contact 1-HELP at 1-4357 with questions.

LAPTOP ENCRYPTION PLANNED

In order to improve the safety of private University data and remain in compliance with University standards, OIT Security has directed the Field Administration Support Technologists (FAST) team to set up encryption software on all OIT laptop computer hard drives. Beginning immediately, FAST staff will contact Windows XP laptop users to schedule a time to set up the user's encryption software, expecting to finish by mid May. After that, FAST staff will begin working with Mac users. Questions and concerns should be sent to oitfast@umn.edu.

HOURS FOR SOME WALK-IN HELPLINES CHANGE

Effective April 28, the hours for some walk-in helpline locations changed. For up-to-date locations and times, visit www.umn.edu/adcs/help/helpline.html.

NORTON ANTIVIRUS 10.2 FOR MAC AVAILABLE

Norton AntiVirus 10.2 for Mac is available through the OIT software license program and is available for download at www.umn.edu/adcs/software/security. The University agreement allows for installation of the software on any computer paid for with University funds and owned by the U of M, as well as one computer owned by current U of M students, faculty, or staff for personal use. For technical assistance, contact 1-HELP at 1-4357.

UMCAL CLIENT AVAILABLE FOR VISTA

UMCal's vendor, Oracle, recently released a certified client for Microsoft Windows Vista. The client is available at www.umn.edu/umcal/download/. Don't forget -- you can use UMCAL with many handheld devices, as well. Find out more at www.umn.edu/umcal.

MYU ENHANCEMENTS ANNOUNCED

Several enhancements have been made to myU recently. Among them are the ability to add personalized RSS feeds to your My News page and a new look for the My Profile page, including capabilities to refresh and edit your personal data. Find out more at www.myu.umn.edu.

GET READY TO TEACH WITH TECHNOLOGY THIS FALL

DMC consultants can help instructors and their assistants prepare to teach with technology. Get help planning and designing learning activities and materials, courses, and even entire curricula, hire student Web developers to create or redesign course sites, get training, and more. See <http://dmc.umn.edu/services.shtml>, call (612) 625-5055, or e-mail dmc@umn.edu.

SCHEDULE COURSES IN THE ACTIVE LEARNING CLASSROOMS!

Contact Nancy Peterson, Office of Classroom Management, at n-pete@umn.edu to schedule a course in the Active Learning Classrooms: Biological Sciences Center, Room 64, St. Paul (seats 117) and Electrical Engineering/Computer Science building, Room 2-260, Minneapolis/East Bank (seats 45). For more details, see <http://www.classroom.umn.edu/active-learn-room.asp>.

JUNE 2, 4, 9, 11: DIGITAL TEACHING WORKSHOP

Faculty and P&A instructors develop their pedagogical and technical skills in an integrated fashion and enhance their teaching practices in a technology-rich environment. This intensive workshop, offered in a blended learning format, takes place over the course of a week and a half. For more information and registration, go to dmc.umn.edu/digital-teaching/.

NEW COURSE! MOODLE 1.8: COLLABORATION

Are you a course designer interested in using Moodle for collaboration beyond just forums and glossaries? In this new, hands-on course, you will review, create, and manage group activities, polls, public collections of users' entries, and wikis. Look for Moodle under Short Courses at uttc.umn.edu to register for this no-charge course.

NEW COURSE! ACCESS 2007: ADVANCED DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

Are you looking to improve your database talents? Learn skills such as using field validation, formatting forms, using Action Queries, and much more with Access 2007: Advanced Database Development. Learn more about this and all Microsoft Office 2007 courses in the Featured @ UTTC section of uttc.umn.edu.

NEW COURSE! MS OFFICE 2007: WORKING BETWEEN APPLICATIONS

The Microsoft Office System is a powerful suite of applications that are even more powerful when used together. Learn how to use the strengths of each application to simplify the creation and management of consistently styled documents and presentations in this brand new hands-on course. Search for Office today at uttc.umn.edu.

UTTC'S SUMMER SCHEDULE

The lazy days of summer are the perfect time to brush up on your computer skills, even if your days are more bustling than lazy. After all, UTTC's short courses are designed to fit your schedule. Look for UTTC's summer schedule online soon. Check in at uttc.umn.edu to see What's New!

JUNE 11: EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGISTS FORUM (ETF)

Campus educational technology designers and developers are invited to socialize and learn more about the U's learning platform and digital campus initiatives at the next ETF meeting: June 11, 3-4:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library. For more information about this group, see dmc.umn.edu/etf/.

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