IT Update

Texas A&M Information Technology

March 2017

New & Noteworthy

- **Texas A&M [Tech Summit](#) 2017 was the best yet!** Over 500 attendees and 44 sponsors, attended the two and a half day event. Save the date for February 27 through March 1, 2018

- **Dee Childs, Vice President for Information Technology at Texas A&M University, is one of two new inductees to the [InCommon Steering Committee](#)**. Responsibilities will include managing the business and affairs of InCommon, including oversight and recommendations on operational and management issues. She will serve a two-year term with 12 other leaders from U.S. research and higher education.information on this system.

- **Microsoft Visio and Project Pro 2016 are now available for departments that have opted in to this license agreement for their employees.** Eligible employees should now see both products on the https://software.tamu.edu website and can purchase personal copies for $5, a 50 percent reduction from earlier versions.

- **Texas A&M IT's Project Management Office partnered with EOD to re-launch the Project Management Fundamentals course** and provide pragmatic PM training relevant to Higher Education and tailored to Texas A&M. For more details and to register, please visit http://training.tamu.edu/Courses/Detail/2585. Email PMO@tamu.edu with questions or suggestions for advanced topics you would like to see offered.

- **Wireless network usage set a new record this month with over 60TB used in a single day and over 10Gbps peak usage.** 6,336 wireless access points are currently deployed across campus.

- **There are new ways to learn about IT Accessibility.** [Register today](#) for Web Accessibility Essentials through EOD on March 6, 2017 from 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. This course is designed for anyone who has a role related to Texas A&M University websites and/or web content (e.g., administrators, managers, web designers, web developers, content contributors). For advanced users, [Web Accessibility – Advanced](#) will be offered on April 12 and 13 from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

- **The March IT Forum has been moved to Thursday, March 9 at 1:30 p.m.** in Rudder 601 to avoid a conflict with Staff Appreciation Week. Make plans to attend and learn what

projects Texas A&M IT will be working on in 2017.

Project Progress

- **The Texas A&M University 800 MHz Trunking Radio System was upgraded** to a new Motorola MotoTRBO platform. The new system was installed during the 2016 winter break.

- **Infoblox replaced NIM for all DNS-related network management.** Visit the IT.tamu.edu website for a list of Infoblox resources and training videos.

- **The IT Governance Working Group is finalizing the details of an IT governance framework** under the direction of VP for IT and CIO, Dee Childs, and Associate VP for Academic Services, Joe Pettibon. The framework will be presented for review and feedback this spring.

- **The 100G TXBB upgrade is a high-profile joint project with UT to upgrade our internet connections between Dallas, College Station, Houston and Austin to 100G.** The upgrade from College Station to Houston and Dallas are complete. The connections from Austin to Houston and Austin to Dallas are awaiting equipment installs at UT sites. This upgrade benefits Texas A&M University and Texas A&M University System members. The project should be complete by early summer.

- **Important SPECTRIM Risk Assessment Dates:**
    - **Fiscal year 2017 risk assessments are due April 28, 2017.** All units should have their risk assessment approved by their Dean or VP by this date for FY17 reporting.
    - **Assessor SPECTRIM trainings are scheduled for the spring.** Visit the CIO.tamu.edu website for a list of training dates for the month of March.
    - **Weekly office hours are Thursdays from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. in TAES Annex room 117.** This time is set aside for any questions dealing with the IT risk assessment process. Texas A&M IT staff are also available for one-on-one meetings during the week as schedules permit.

- **Texas A&M IT is developing a university-wide disaster recovery plan, and has completed its first round of business impact analysis internally.** Texas A&M IT is creating templates for external units to easily complete their portions of the university plan.

- Texas A&M requires password aging for all accounts on our network. **IT Resource Account passwords that are more than four years old will begin expiring March 13.** As an added layer of security, ALL NetIDs with proxy access to IT Resource Accounts will be required to use NetID Two-Factor Authentication starting March 20.

Pilot Progress

- **Texas A&M IT Business Relationship Managers (BRMs) are developing a Customer Value Hierarchy (CVH).** The CVH will help us better identify the needs and expectations of our business partners. The BRMs have selected five critical services to pilot the new CVH process.

CONTACT US

Please send feedback and questions to Texas A&M IT Product Strategy and Communication at tamu-it@tamu.edu.