

POSSIBILITIES

FALL 2019 • DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

Fall brings change, and the Division of Information Technology is not immune! In this issue, we'll look at new services and offerings for the Texas A&M community, as well as the retirement of an IT legend.

We'll also take a sneak peek at the division's new online cybersecurity awareness game. Remember: You can always find great security tips at it.tamu.edu/security.

Don't forget to tell us what you think about this newsletter by dropping us an email at tamu-it-coms@tamu.edu.

TECHNICALLY SPEAKING TV

Division of IT Hits the Airwaves

Forget binge watching the latest season of "Stranger Things." You can now watch "Technically Speaking TV," a new show from the Division of Information Technology and KAMU-TV.

The show premiered in August and is now available on the division's YouTube channel and kamutvfm.org. The first episode features guests Dee Childs, Vice President of Information Technology and Texas A&M Chief Information Officer; Kristen Kubenka, Assistant Director for the Division of

Information Technology; and Identity Program Management Program Manager Susan Neitsch. Discussion topics include technology at Texas A&M, the growing IT job market and the importance of interesting students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

The next episode of "Technically Speaking" will air this month highlighting the importance of cybersecurity and tips for staying safe online. Future episodes are planned throughout the year.



NEED A 'LiL' KNOWHOW?

Lynda is now LinkedIn Learning

The Texas A&M University community now has access to over 13,000 courses at no charge, thanks to LinkedIn Learning (LiL) and the Office for Academic Innovation.

Texas A&M upgraded to LiL from Lynda.com, which was acquired by LinkedIn Learning. All saved files, certificates and progress from Lynda.tamu.edu users were transferred to LiL during the upgrade.

Employees, just log in to lil.tamu.edu with your NetID and password to learn:

- **Software skills including Adobe Creative Cloud and Office 365**
- **Hobbies such as drawing, shredding on guitar and photography**
- **Project and time management techniques**

Faculty can use LiL to find supplemental material for their classes and polish skills such as:

- **Core strategies for teaching in higher ed**
- **Teaching with technology**
- **Creating effective learning assessments**

Not sure how you can use it? There's even a course for "Teaching with LinkedIn Learning."

You can even associate your personal LinkedIn account with LiL and your course completion certificates will appear on your profile!



lynda.com



LEARNING

WITH Lynda.com CONTENT

Zoom into the future

Tired of scheduling conference rooms and searching for campus parking spots? Save time, increase productivity and collaborate with anyone using Zoom, a video communication tool powered by Texas A&M University's new Office for Academic Innovation.

All Texas A&M University students and employees now have a free Zoom Pro account at tamu.zoom.us.

Some Zoom Pro features that make life easier:

- **Schedule unlimited meetings, with up to 300 video participants.**
- **Divide classes into multiple breakout rooms for group work.**
- **Take attendance and conduct live polling during sessions!**
- **Use Zoom on any device, including mobile.**
- **Get everyone on the same page with seamless screen and content sharing.**
- **Zoom rooms are being deployed across campus to transform teaching. Locations can be found at u.tamu.edu/zoomrooms.**

OFFICE 365 PROPLUS

Texas A&M Community Can Download MS Office for free

Texas A&M University faculty, staff and students can now download Microsoft Office free for personal use at gateway.tamu.edu/office365.

Office 365 ProPlus programs have the same features and functionality as standard versions of Office. Advantages of Office 365 ProPlus include:

- **Download can be used on five computers, five tablets and five smartphones**
- **1TB of OneDrive storage**
- **Automatic installation of new features and updates**
- **Ability to embed animated 3D graphics in Word and PowerPoint**

CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

Join the Aggie Cybersecurity Circus

Step right up!! In recognition of National Cyber Security Awareness Month, and in homage to Monty Python, the Division of Information Technology invites you to the Aggie Cybersecurity Circus.

Wander the virtual circus between October 14 - 25. Play three games and receive your choice of a FREE burrito from Freebirds, a 5 oz. yogurt from Swirls, or an iced coffee or tea from Blue Baker. Complete five games and be entered to win a laptop from 12th Man Technology.

Play today at it.tamu.edu/cybercircus.



Marchbanks Retires from Texas A&M

The future of the Division of Information Technology is brighter than it has been in years according to Dr. Pete Marchbanks, who served Texas A&M for over 50 years before retiring in August.

“Dr. Pete,” as he is affectionately known across campus, began working in the Data Processing Center (DPC) on September 1, 1967 as a research assistant. Shortly after receiving his master’s degree from Texas A&M, he was drafted into the U.S Army to serve during the Vietnam War.

“I was sent to work for the Comptroller of the Army’s Office of Information Systems,” he recalled. “I later asked Lt. Col. David L. Lawrence, ‘How did you pick me?’ I was told I was picked out of the crowd because I had a Master of Computer Science degree from Texas A&M and he never met an Aggie he did not like.”

The summer before returning to “civilian life,” Dr. Pete met DPC Director Bob Bower while he was at the Army Reserve Summer Camp at the Pentagon. Bower told Dr. Pete to contact him after his Army service, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Dr. Pete returned to Texas A&M as a DPC programmer in February 1971.

Dr. Pete was named Interim Executive Director of Computing and Information Services and Deputy CIO in 2007. That position became permanent in 2009.

While there have been a number of accomplishments over the years, Dr. Pete says he is most proud of centralizing funding for student computing. Entering retirement, his focus is now on “growing” accomplishments.

“Growing things is rewarding,” he said. “My wife likes plants that are pretty, while I like things I can eat. I also like mechanical things. I have several clocks I will make run again and a first year (Mazda) Miata. I definitely won’t be bored.”

“ I think the future of the Division of Information Technology is brighter than it has been in years.”

