



IT Update

May 2015

New & Noteworthy

- **Texas A&M IT has completed development on the new Account Management System for the Supercomputing Facility.** The application allows researchers to request supercomputer resources, administrators to manage those requests, track resources requested versus used, and handle billing.
- **A project has been initiated to evaluate using Cisco for campus Voice-over-Internet Protocol (VoIP).** The goal is to provide a unified communications solution, including voice and video. Upon completion, Texas A&M IT will be responsible for maintaining both the new and current VoIP systems.
- **The Department of Civil Engineering is now using Sundial for their academic advisor appointment scheduling needs.** To learn more about the Sundial web-based appointment scheduling service for students and academic advisors, visit <https://u.tamu.edu/sundial>.
- **The June 3 IT Forum will feature a presentation from Chef on DevOps and Automation. Chef will also be leading a Chef Fundamentals workshop from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 4 in Rudder 601.** If you are interested in attending the workshop, complete and submit the form linked from <http://itforum.tamu.edu>. Space is limited.
- **Project Management is hosting four Certificate Program Courses in June.** View the schedule and details on the IT website - <https://u.tamu.edu/XTWZB-wg>.

Project Progress

- **A hardware upgrade is scheduled for the Texas A&M VPN system, <https://connect.tamu.edu>, on Friday, May 29.** The system will also begin using a **SHA-2 certificate**. Customers using L2TP on Windows to connect to VPN are encouraged to update their settings before the move to 256-bit encryption. Instructions can be found at <https://u.tamu.edu/MTU>.
- **Texas A&M is continuing negotiations with the first component vendor for the Dollar Data Center buildout this week.** The evaluation of the second component (compute and storage) and third component (IT services) will begin in mid-May.

- **The Texas A&M Exchange Email transition team has held meetings with colleges and departments across campus to begin their transition to the shared service.** This month, they have met with the Division of Student Affairs, College of Education and Human Development, University Libraries, College of Agriculture and College of Veterinary Medicine.

- **Texas A&M IT is creating a ServiceNow self-service website for end users to access service catalog, knowledge base and IT alerts for Texas A&M University at College Station.** A team of ServiceNow shared-service partners is also working to deploy the Change Management application.

- **ALL Texas A&M IT controlled wireless access points have been upgraded to Aruba 802.11n.** Access points in the Moore/Connally, Rudder Tower, Teague, Business Library and Medical Science Library buildings are now being upgraded to 802.11ac.

- The Outdoor Wi-Fi project is continuing with access points being installed in bus stops and parking arms across campus. **There is now outdoor Wi-Fi at the Hart/Psychology, Langford C, Richardson, Reed McDonald and Coke building bus stop areas. There is also Wi-Fi at the outdoor dining area for Sbisa.** Work has begun for the outdoor wireless at the Bio Bio corridor on West Campus. Future outdoor wireless projects include the greenspace in front of the new Liberal Arts building

- **The Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) will receive a network upgrade** to enhance reliability and redundancy via fiber circuits using multiprotocol label switching (MPLS). BVWACS is an interoperable radio system used by public safety entities, including Texas A&M University Police and Emergency Medical Services.

CONTACT US

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