

**UC DAVIS REPORT TO THE JOINT OPERATIONS GROUP**  
**SEPTEMBER 2002-JANUARY 2003**

## **I. CAMPUSWIDE TECHNOLOGY HIGHLIGHTS**

**IT STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR UC DAVIS.** John Bruno, Vice Provost for Information and Educational Technology, and John Meyer, Vice Chancellor for Resource and Management Planning initiated the development of the IT Strategic Plan for UC Davis in September. Workgroup leads have been identified and a Web site has been developed to provide the campus community with quick access to the latest drafts, news and announcements, committee memberships, and other information related to the development of this plan. (See <http://itstrategicplan.ucdavis.edu>.)

**COMMITTEE EXPLORES HIGH-SPEED NETWORKING POSSIBILITIES.** The High-speed Networking Committee held its first meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss campus, metropolitan, state, and national perspectives on high-speed networking. Tom West, President of the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives (CENIC), and Douglas Van Houwelling, President and CEO of the University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development (UCAID) gave presentations outlining the state, scope, and possible applications of statewide and national high-speed networking.

The High-speed Networking Committee is part of a multi-disciplinary public health initiative launched this Fall by Provost Hinshaw. The small group, comprised of faculty and campus administrators, is charged with advising the provost on the development, integration and use of high-speed networking as it relates to the creation of multi-disciplinary research and educational initiatives. Vice Provost Bruno and Tom Nesbitt, Assistant Dean, UCD Medical Center, co-chair the committee.

### **NEW BUSINESS ARCHITECTURE UPDATE**

- **NBA Recruits Project Manager.** Following a national search, a project manager has been hired to develop the vision and strategies to lead UC Davis through the implementation of the New Business Architecture. Debbie Flagg-Parker started in her new position on November 1.
- **Retreat Planned for NBA Goal-setting.** In the last few months, the Implementation Workgroup and project manager have been planning a special retreat to discuss NBA goals, identify priorities, and set a direction for the campus. The retreat is planned for January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2003. It will be facilitated by one of the members of the original UC-wide Planning Group.

### **MYUCDAVIS PORTAL**

- **Migration of WebCT Clients.** Following the campus' decision to no longer centrally support the WebCT Course Management product, faculty who had used the system were offered assistance in moving their course content from WebCT to MyUCDavis. Over the Summer and Fall terms, content for 20 course Web sites and over 2,000 quiz questions were successfully moved into the MyUCDavis Course Management system.
- **New Course Management Features and Functionality.** The following enhancements were implemented between October and December 2002: Quiz Builder (allows instructors to create quizzes and tests for print or online), a Course Management Guest feature (staff can now see how instructors create course-related materials in MyUCDavis and instructors can practice with the tools), a Threaded Discussion Board, and a Glossary Tool.

### **IT POLICIES**

- **Mass Messaging Policy.** The policy for mass electronic communications was reviewed and approved by the Administrative and Academic Computing Coordinating Councils (AdC3 and AC4, respectively). The policy has been forwarded to the Chancellor's Office for formal review.
- **Email Communications with Students.** A policy has been drafted that identifies email as an official communication medium for the University to reach students. Several issues are being investigated,

including the need to verify that all students activate their campus accounts and potential security issues related to the transport of email.

## II. INFRASTRUCTURE HIGHLIGHTS

**NETWORK, VOICE, AND DATA HIGHLIGHTS:** See CPG Report: <http://iet.ucdavis.edu/pubs/CPG/CPGWinter2003.html>

**ENTERPRISE DIRECTORY SERVICES.** The Enterprise Directory Services project continues to prototype the conversion to the Banner system. A key issue for the project is management of ambiguous identities – records that are not clearly a match or new identity records. This fiscal year, the project team expects to architect a solution for the Banner conversion that will pilot future conversions. The project team has set up the new hardware, created a Registry database, and completed an initial load of Banner identities.

**DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT PROJECT.** The Student Affairs Document Management Project hurdled a large milestone with the completion of on-site evaluations. In keeping with the RFP process, the Document Management team brought 3 vendors to campus to evaluate their products in our environment. The final scoring of this performance is forthcoming early in the Winter Quarter, 2003. Implementation for the selected product will follow and is expected to include 4-6 months of on-site participation from Student Affairs, IET, and the selected vendor.

**ACTIVE DIRECTORY ROOT SERVICE.** The Data Center has developed an Active Directory root service for use by campus departments. Fifteen departments have already been identified. IET will provide the thin root cell for the campus domains and a secure means of authentication that is integrated with the IET Computing Accounts service.

**INVESTIGATION OF ANTI-SPAM OPTIONS.** A group of campus technical specialists met with IET staff to identify guidelines and suggestions for controlling spam received on campus. IET will be exploring the implementation issues of these guidelines and suggestions in the first quarter of 2003. For updates on this investigation, check the Security Web site at <http://security.ucdavis.edu/>.

### SECURITY

- **Common Authentication Project Report.** In December, the Common Authentication Project Team charged with developing an authentication strategy for the campus' distributed computing environment released its report and recommendations to the campus. The report is available at: <http://vpiet.ucdavis.edu/advancedprojects/>.
- **UC Davis Security Symposium.** Scheduled for June 18-20, 2003, this symposium will be packed with security-related material intended to give campus technical professionals tips and tricks for securing campus systems. The symposium will also include a special management track that will offer sessions for non-technical managers and unit administrators. Due to the anticipated interest and value of the security topics, IET will open both speaking opportunities and enrollment to other UC campuses. For more information, see <http://ietsymposia.ucdavis.edu/security/>.
- **Anti-virus Email Filtering.** In July 2002, IET added email anti-virus services to the campus central email servers. The servers are now filtering approximately 15 to 20 million email messages for known computer viruses and identifying about 200,000 virus attachments per month. This filtering has resulted in a decreased loss of data as well as productivity gains as faculty, student and staff devote less time towards virus removal and restoring computer systems. (See <http://security.ucdavis.edu/>.)

### III. ADMINISTRATIVE COMPUTING HIGHLIGHTS

**STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM SUCCESSFULLY UPGRADED.** The Banner/SIS team successfully optimized their database and hardware before the start of the Fall quarter and upgraded to Banner 5.5 over the weekend of December 7<sup>th</sup>. The team is now equipped to offer better ADA and SEVIS compliance, and is decommissioning RSVP, the telephone registration system.

**NEW PPS DECISION SUPPORT REPORTS ASSIST CENTRAL AND DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES.** Updates made recently to the local system that track PPS user codes now allow central offices to better monitor PPS Entry/Update access and retain access history.

**ELECTRONIC RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM.** IET continues to partner with the Office of Research to identify and implement a “cradle-to-grave” transaction processing system that will create, track, and manage research proposals and grants for the campus. Currently, this is a very labor-intensive process for UC Davis, without much automation. Several ERA products exist but the project team is interested in a system that can accommodate UC Davis’ academic and administrative functional requirements, is cost effective, and can be easily integrated into our environment.

**CAMPUS GEARS UP FOR SEVIS COMPLIANCE.** The workgroup’s recommendation to select FsaAtlas from NewFront Software was accepted by the SEVIS Oversight Committee and subsequently acquired and installed in the Campus Data Center. This system will provide the support needed for managing all of the visa holding populations on campus, as well as special processes to support the tracking and reporting of SEVIS reportable events to the INS. The project is on track for its January roll-out for new student, scholars, and exchange visitors. Data regarding all existing student, scholar, and exchange visitors will be converted over to this new application over the next three months.

#### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (DAFIS).**

*Provided by Financial and Accounting Services.*

- Analysis and development continues on the next generation of DaFIS Transaction Processing. Updates for this project can be found at <http://dafis.ucdavis.edu/tp2/>
- Several projects are in development as cooperative efforts with University Relations, Business Contracts Office, Office of Research, and others. These development efforts can be tracked at <http://dafis.ucdavis.edu/updates/>.

*This report can be accessed on the Web at <http://iet.ucdavis.edu/pubs/JOG/1-03/>. For more information on these and other UC Davis highlights, see the IET Quarterly Report at <http://iet.ucdavis.edu/quarterly/IET.report.Dec.02.pdf/>.*