

ForUM Statistics

During January 2010, ForUM received a total of 63,499 visits with over 99% coming from just 9 countries!

The highest number of visitors came from the United States with 63,158. There were also 236 ForUM visits from Canada, 31 from Brazil, and 30 from the United Kingdom.

The other countries in January's top nine were Croatia, Germany, Norway, Taiwan and Argentina.

What's New with Blackboard?



Have you noticed that a new front-end web page has been created for Blackboard users? The new page contains information about what Blackboard is, where to find it, how to login and more.

This new web page was created by Technology Services in response to the increased volume of calls from students having trouble logging into Blackboard. The week

after the new page went live, the number of calls to the Help Desk regarding Blackboard dropped by 63%! While there were certainly other factors involved in this sudden decline, we are confident that the new Blackboard front-end was a significant contributor.

To find more information, visit the page at www.montevallo.edu/cs/Blackboard/BBlogin.shtm.

CIO Corner *(by Frank Whidden, Ph.D., Interim CIO)*

Technology Services is working to be a leader helping the University change, grow, and adapt in our challenging time. Difficult economic times are always unsettling. That's not news to any of us as most have friends or family who have been directly impacted by the current recession. Certainly, public institutions of higher learning have been affected. Within Technology Services, we are reviewing all of our systems and processes to find and implement changes that yield true cost savings while making sure we deliver even

higher value. That's no small challenge.

Our most recent project along these lines was the server virtualization implementation. With great leadership and support from vice presidents DeAnna Smith and Dr. Terry Roberson, Technology Services was able to reduce the number of physical servers by twenty by using only 3 servers with VMware. This meant we could reduce our hardware and software cost but even more importantly we were

able to achieve an annual savings of \$15,000 per year in heating/cooling and electricity costs. That means we also did the right thing environmentally and reduced the carbon footprint of the University.

We are committed to achieving additional cost savings while increasing our service to you at every opportunity we can find. Even in this challenging time, we remain very excited about the future of our University and the future that all of us are building every day!

Password Expiration Email Notification

Later this month, Technology Services will implement an email notification system to advise of impending network password expirations. Your network password provides access to things such as ForUM, your UM email account, and departmental network shares. This password expires every 180 days. The new system will send you a brief email 14 days before your password expires and

daily until you change your password. It is hoped this new service will help prevent any surprises that could occur when someone's password expires.



Please contact the Help Desk at 665-6520 if you have any questions about this service or need assistance changing your password.

*Ask yourself:
"Do I know
when my
password
expires?"*

Wireless Comes to New Locations

Thanks to a recently obtained grant, the University's wireless network has been expanded to include more locations on campus. Most notably, equipment has

been installed in Napier and Fuller, now making wireless available in all residence halls. Other locations where the wireless network has been or will be



added or expanded are Peterson Hall, Van Tuyl House as well as part of the Physical Plant.

WEPA Print Services Being Explored

Starting this Spring, the University will be evaluating a new print service for the campus. The WEPA (Wireless Everywhere Print Anywhere) service is available at kiosks providing

both color and black and white printing from USB flash drives or from a user-created web-based file queue. During the evaluation period, kiosks will be installed in the Library computer lab, the

Library Reference Commons area, the lounge area between Morgan and Comer Halls, on the 2nd floor of Bloch Hall, and in the new Residential College Building.

For More Information:

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