Toward a Single Login Credential

On July 15, the myUCF portal was updated so that the login process uses Shibboleth Federated Identity software to authenticate users. This will allow a user to sign in to the portal and then transfer to other applications without having to log in again. One of the first applications to be “Shibbolized” was the Webcourses (Canvas) learning management system. Now that the portal uses Shibboleth, you can transfer from the portal into Webcourses without encountering an additional login page.

A number of other systems on campus have also been modified to use Shibboleth, including applications from the Library, Student Development and Enrollment Services (SDES), the College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS) and the Office of Research and Commercialization (ORC), including ARGIS and PARIS.

UCF is also a member of the InCommon Federation, which is operated by Internet2, which allows us to set up Shibboleth authentication with other members of InCommon, including the National Science Foundation (http://www.research.gov) and EDUCAUSE (http://www.educause.edu).

InCommon members currently include 376 higher education institutions; 28 government nonprofit laboratories, research centers and agencies; and 150 sponsored partners. More information on InCommon can be found at: http://www.incommon.org.

UCF Librarians Recognized

Sai Deng, metadata librarian with the UCF Libraries, was a recipient of the 2013 Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) President’s Recognition Award, presented at the American Library Association’s annual conference in June. Since joining CALA in 2006 she has made many significant contributions, including authoring several peer-reviewed publications, serving as editor of CALA’s online newsletter, contributing to the organization’s web design, and translating documents into Chinese or English. Sai Deng works on some of the most cutting-edge issues in librarianship: metadata, linked data, user interfaces, and digital collections, to name a few.

Mary Page, associate director for collections and technical services at UCF Libraries, was elected president of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS). Page’s term begins at the end of the American Library Association 2013 Annual Conference in Chicago. She has been actively involved in ALCTS serving as director-at-large for the board of directors, co-chair of the program committee and chair of the continuing resources section. Page also served as North American Serials Interest Group president and an at-large board member. She is a member of Beta Phi Mu and Phi Beta Kappa.

myUCF: New Look, New Login

The myUCF portal received a new look and functionality in July. The redesigned myUCF provides more dynamic content for an improved user experience.

Sign-on requests utilize the UCF federated login page described above, which allows for single sign on and authentication between the myUCF Portal, Webcourses and other applications, while bypassing the need to log in to the additional application.

Additional enhancements include quick links to Webcourses and the class search, direct links for assistance using myUCF and Webcourses, important announcements with highlights from the academic calendar, direct links to additional resources for academic, and human resource and information security contacts and procedures. The guest class search page includes a captcha option to protect that resource from abuse.

There’s also quick access to the campus map, campus directory and parking information for visitors and those who are new to campus.
The Remedy OnDemand project is the implementation of a cloud-based (ERP-level) IT Service Management (ITSM) system. Computer Services & Telecommunications (CS&T) has purchased the full Remedy ITSM 8 software as-a-service package. This includes features such as service desk, self-service, change, asset management, and analytics tools. Initially, CS&T is implementing a basic ticketing system, which will provide a one-stop shop for all of CS&T Service Desk tickets.

Remedy will replace several existing service management tools, including SharePoint and Email lists. It will allow for increased visibility between functional groups and more advanced reporting capabilities. The high level objective of the project is to eliminate several outdated and complex systems that are used to coordinate projects and end-user support.

CS&T is currently in the Implementation phase of the project, which includes customizations, integrations, foundation data configuration (from PeopleSoft), Federated ID login, creating and inputting Service Request Definitions, user testing, rollout and post-live support and documentation.

Library Technology

For many years, the UCF Libraries received funding for technology purchases from the Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA), the organization that also supported the library management system (catalog, circulation, etc.) for the state universities in Florida. FCLA ceased to exist in June 2012 and a new organization, the Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC), which includes both state university and college libraries, was created. With the transition to FLVC, funding for technology purchases ceased.

A successful 2012 Technology Fee proposal funded the replacement of the older Dell PC workstations in the Knowledge Commons with new Dell “all-in-one” workstations, which were placed into service over the summer. Student response to the new, faster workstations has been very positive.

Faculty Workshops

The Faculty Multimedia Workshop Series is co-sponsored by UCF’s Office of Instructional Resources (OIR), the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning (FCTL), and the Center for Distributed Learning (CDL). Workshops are offered periodically to facilitate faculty creation of multimedia materials for use in their classrooms and online courses.

Each workshop focuses on a specific type of course-relevant multimedia and includes:
- Examples from actual courses
- Demonstrations of steps to create new multimedia materials
- Best practices
- Hands-on creation of multimedia in a supportive environment

Workshops are held in the Faculty Multimedia Center (FMC) in Classroom Building I (see photo below). The one-hour format includes demonstrations followed by hands-on practice and a wrap-up discussion. All members of the UCF community are invited to participate in the Faculty Multimedia Workshop Series.


Technology Fee Update

Don’t forget, this year’s Technology Fee proposal deadline is Sept. 20.

Last year, 38 proposals were funded, in the amount of $9.2 million.

View the full list of last year’s proposals at http://www.itr.ucf.edu/TechFee/AY2012-2013_Tech_Fee_Awards.pdf.

In addition, the following links will guide you through the proposal process.

Online proposal form: http://www.itr.ucf.edu/TechFee/

Form instructions: http://itr.ucf.edu/TechFee/Instructions.asp


The Technology Fee was established in the fall term of the 2009-2010 academic year by the Florida Legislature.

The Revenues from the fee are used to enhance instructional technology resources for students and faculty.

Since its inception at UCF, more than 150 proposals have been funded, providing numerous new equipment, upgrades and improvements.

Tech Fee Facts

- Since 2009, the Tech Fee committee has received 263 proposals with a total requested value of $63,190,290.
- One hundred sixty-eight proposals were funded, with total awards equaling $30,646,300.
- Tech Fee awards were received by 12 colleges and four academic support units.
New Alexander Street Press Streaming Video Collection

The UCF Libraries is pleased to announce the purchase of several new streaming video packages from Alexander Street Press (ASP). These resources were funded through a 2012 Technology Fee proposal for the purchase of 10 subject collections.

The new video material is available 24/7 with unlimited simultaneous access. All UCF-affiliated students and faculty members can access the content, which can also be linked as full videos or video segments within online courses in Webcourses. While viewing a video or clip within the collection, faculty members can choose the ‘Embed/Link’ option to copy and paste the link within a Canvas Course.

The following is a list of the 13 subject collections now owned by UCF:

- **American History in Video**: 6,005 titles of commercial and governmental newsreels, archival footage, public affairs footage, and important documentaries
- **Ethnographic Video Online Volume I**: 1,111 documentary films essential for the study of anthropology, politics, economics, history, psychology, environmental studies, religion, area studies, linguistics, and geography
- **Art and Architecture in Video**: 427 documentaries and interviews illustrating the history, theory and practice of art, design and architecture
- **Theatre in Video**: 226 performances of the world’s leading plays and 100 film documentaries representing leading playwrights, actors and directors
- **The Video Journal of Counseling and Therapy Volume I**: a definitive collection of 269 titles on the latest in research and best practice methods in the fields of counseling, mental health, and psychology
- **Counseling and Therapy in Video Volume I**: 356 titles on counseling, social work, psychotherapy, psychology, and psychiatric counseling
- **Counseling and Therapy in Video Volume II**: 358 titles on counseling, social work, psychotherapy, psychology, and psychiatric counseling
- **Education in Video**: 4,306 titles for the training and development of K-12 teachers including teaching demonstrations, lectures, documentaries, and primary-source footage of students and teachers in actual classrooms
- **New World Cinema**: Independent Features & Shorts: 219 titles of award-winning full-length feature films and shorts (1990-present) from leading independent distributors around the world. All films were presented at major film festivals, many were nominated for or won awards
- **Filmmakers Library Online Volume I**: More than 1,000 documentaries with relevance across the curriculum — race and gender studies, human rights, globalization and global studies, multiculturalism, international relations, criminal justice, the environment, bioethics, health, political science and current events, psychology, arts, literature, and more
- **LGBT Studies in Video**: 272 videos featuring documentaries, interviews, archival footage, and select feature films exploring LGBT history, gay culture and subcultures, civil rights, marriage equality, LGBT families, AIDS, transgender issues, religious perspectives on homosexuality, global comparative experiences, and other topics
- **Nursing Education in Video Volume I**: 307 titles for the education and training of nurses, nursing assistants, and other healthcare workers. All videos in the collection have been created under the guidance of the Medcom-Trainex advisory board, and are regularly reviewed for accuracy, currency, and compliance with US Federal regulations from agencies such as OSHA and CMS
- **World History in Video**: 935 documentary films exploring human history from the earliest civilizations to the late 20th Century, covering Africa and the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Oceania

The Alexander Street Press Streaming Video Collection can be found listed alphabetically on the Libraries’ database Web page (http://library.ucf.edu/Databases) or for a full listing refer to the streaming video research guide (http://guides.ucf.edu/aspvideos). The library provides another collection of streaming videos, Films on Demand (FMG), which is a collection of 130 streaming videos from Films for the Humanities & Sciences.

The library also manages a collection of titles including feature films, popular documentaries, and television programs. DigitalCampus is a collection of more than 19,000 theatrical films and television programs through Swank Motion Pictures. The university can license semester-long access to films selected for use in web-based courses (W/M). Once added to the university collection, titles can be used in any course that semester. Search available titles on the DigitalCampus web page at http://www.swank.com/digitalcampus, then use the online form to request a film for use in your course. The request form and more detailed information are available here: http://guides.ucf.edu/digitalcampus.

Please contact your subject librarian (http://library.ucf.edu/SubjectLibrarians) for more details. Information on all three collections can be found at: http://guides.ucf.edu/facultystreaming.

New Library Electronic Faculty Newsletter Launched

In May 2013, Illuminations, the libraries’ faculty newsletter, was launched as an electronic publication: http://illuminations.library.ucf.edu/. Earlier volumes are archived at: http://library.ucf.edu/News/Newsletters/Illuminations/.

In addition to the new online format, Illuminations has a new focus: the innovative research of new faculty at UCF. Featured in the first issue are articles by Dr. Amanda Kooonz Anthony on the artists known as the Florida Highwaymen; Dr. Christian Beck on the language of love; Dr. Ann Gleig on Buddhist Geeks, a group devoted to exploring the emerging faces of Buddhism in the modern world; and Dr. Karin Y. Chumbimuni-Torres on recent strides in medicine made by the UCF Chemistry lab.

Illuminations will also include recent news and occasional feature pieces that pertain to the interests of new faculty from departments around campus.

Illuminations is edited by Renee Cole Montgomery (Information Literacy & Outreach) and John Venecek (Research & Information Services). Please contact either of them if you would like to contribute or nominate a new faculty member to be featured. The next issue is expected to be released midway through the fall 2013 semester.
Tracking Phone Charges Simplified

The procedure for reviewing telephone Toll Call Reports to determine required reimbursements for personal calls has been modified in order to reduce time and effort.

Effective July 1, 2013, the Toll Call reports will be generated bi-annually rather than monthly. The six-month reporting periods will be July 1 through December 31 and January 1 through June 30. The reports will identify extensions that have accrued a cumulative total of $45 or more in long distance charges for the six-month reporting period, which will greatly reduce the number of extensions that need to be reviewed.

Upon review of the reports, personal calls that exceed $90 per year by an employee must be reimbursed to the university.

High-Performance Computing

UCF’s Advanced Research Computing Center, STOKES, continues to expand.

A recent upgrade brought STOKES to more than 3,100 processing elements with more than 7 terabytes of memory and nearly 400 terabytes of storage.

This fall, the Internet2 innovation platform (http://www.internet2.edu/pubs/internet2-innovation-platform-FAQ.pdf) will be installed in Partnership III. The innovation platform supports research in software-defined networks, hosts a research DMZ, and provides a research-dedicated 10 gigabit ethernet connection to Florida LambdaRail and Internet2.

A dedicated research network is being built to support advanced research and offload UCF’s enterprise network. Additionally, a laboratory has been established in Partnership III for research in scientific visualization.

UCF’s involvement in the Sunshine State Education and Research Computing Alliance (SSERCA) is maturing, with joint proposals being submitted to funding agencies, statewide network experimentation, and outreach to other institutions and industry.

IST administers and hosts STOKES for the UCF community, supporting faculty research and faculty-directed education. Although it is freely available to the UCF community through any faculty member, policies have recently been put in place to encourage faculty to add their own computers and storage resources.

Please see http://webstokes.ist.ucf.edu for more information.

An additional element in UCF’s cyberinfrastructure portfolio is our access to Florida LambdaRail (FLR), which provides 10 gigabit connections to other SUS institutions, Internet2, National LambdaRail, and a host of other research institutions, laboratories, and advanced research facilities. FLR is owned and managed by 12 Florida public and private research universities, and provides a 20 gigabit backbone network, assistance with end-to-end connections related to specific research projects, and access to a 100 gigabit Internet2 Advanced Layer 2 port in Jacksonville. Software defined network switches (OpenFlow) and GENI racks are being deployed throughout the FLR network to facilitate next-generation research in high-bandwidth research applications and networking technologies. For more information, see http://www.flrnet.org/ .

The Advanced Research Computing Center recently expanded, adding more than 3,100 processing elements with more than 7 terabytes of memory and nearly 400 terabytes of storage.

information technologies & resources websites

Center for Distributed Learning (CDL)  http://cdl.ucf.edu
Computer Services & Telecommunications (CS&T)  http://cst.ucf.edu
Information Technologies & Resources (IT&R)  http://itr.ucf.edu
Library  http://library.ucf.edu
Office of Instructional Resources (OIR)  http://www.oir.ucf.edu