

Subject: News from the CIO - Issue #1

Date: Thursday, February 14, 2019 at 4:43:53 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: Dave Baird

To: Baird, Dave

Good afternoon colleagues,

I am kicking off the new year with a new habit - writing a monthly email to faculty and staff to keep you updated on IT services and projects that may be of interest.

The Desktop Support team is growing!

In response to feedback received during a review of ITS services conducted last semester, we are adding staff in the Desktop Support team to better support faculty and staff. This is the top goal in our newly created Information Technology Strategic Plan. The plan reflects our vision for how technology will play a vital role in moving Wesleyan beyond 2020. You can find the plan online at https://www.wesleyan.edu/its/about/CIO_docs/ITS%20Strategic%20Plan.pdf.

Technology to Streamline Study Abroad Opportunities

Associate Director of Study Abroad Emily Gorlewski, Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Fries Center for Global Studies Steve Angle, and Director of Purchasing Olga Bookas collaborated with ITS to implement Via TRM as an innovative, cost-effective product that will give students more capability to explore and discover the study away opportunities that most closely fit their academic objectives. It also provides a real-time snapshot of where Wesleyan students are studying abroad and improved reporting, allowing FCGS staff to focus more on students and less on systems. Students access Via TRM via WesPortal. For more info, contact Steve Machuga at x2138.

GoToMeeting

Did you know Wesleyan has a site license for GoToMeeting? You can use this service to bring guest speakers into your classes via videoconference. Professor of Religion Mary-Jane Rubenstein encountered overwhelmingly positive student response when she tried it for the first time in fall 2018. As a result, with financial support from CPI to support a student worker and technical support from Academic Technology, she developed a plan to videoconference with three to five authors in her seminar this semester.

"I've been meaning to do something like this for a long time." Rubenstein explains, "This is a way we can get voices and images into the class that we wouldn't ordinarily be able to."

GoToMeeting is also useful for holding class online when severe weather strikes. For more information, contact Rachel Schnepfer at x2763.

Replacing Wesfiles

The Wesfiles Working Group - comprised of faculty and staff from across campus - has begun the process of replacing Wesfiles, with a target completion date of January 1, 2022. Since Wesfiles was implemented around 2007, many new file storage tools have emerged, such as Google Docs and Office 365. While Wesfiles will not be retired for 2-3 years, we are already meeting with teams and migrating some operations to new systems (e.g. Sharepoint on Office 365, our recommended option for departmental files). For more information, contact Karen Warren at x3584.

Beware Email Scams

Have you received an email claiming to be from President Roth, another administrator, or your department chair, asking for urgent assistance because they are stuck in a never-ending meeting? Email scams are on the rise at Wesleyan. Our advice is to remember that email is an open and insecure medium. Transactions involving sensitive

information or financial transactions should not be conducted via email, and any emailed request for urgent action should be confirmed via a different medium before acting. More information about email scams can be found online at <https://www.wesleyan.edu/its/security/phishing.html> .

If you have questions or suggestions for topics for me to cover next month, please contact me at dbaird@wesleyan.edu or x2119.

Thank you,

Dave

Dave Baird
Vice President for Information Technology
& Chief Information Officer