

**Subject:** News from the CIO - Issue #4

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2019 at 5:46:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time

**From:** Dave Baird

**To:** Wesleyan Faculty

Greetings Colleagues,

In this month's *News from the CIO*, with Wesleyan's 187<sup>th</sup> Commencement recently concluded, now is the time when ITS staff traditionally switch gears from direct user support to summer project work, some of which I describe below. It is also a good time for me to thank my entire staff for all their work in supporting all of you this past year, and to thank everyone for all of the helpful feedback we received this year on how we can better serve you.

### **ITS Personnel Updates**

This month we welcomed our new Director of User Services, Erik Quimby, who comes to Wesleyan from the Rhode Island School of Design where he served in a similar role for the past 13 years. Erik will manage the Desktop Support and Service Center teams, and will focus on improving ITS service to the community. We are also pleased to welcome Rob Stickle as Desktop Support Specialist for Division 3. On the security front, during the week of June 10-14 we will be hosting four candidates for Chief Information Security Officer, a position we share with Trinity College. If you wish to attend their public presentations, join us in Exley 509A from 10:45-11:30 am on the 10th, 11th, 12th, and 14th. Lastly, we have an open position for an Academic Technologist, online at <http://careers.wesleyan.edu/postings/6850> and I encourage your sharing this with qualified candidates.

### **Story Mapping in German Studies**

For her second book project, Iris Bork-Goldfield (German Studies), knew she wanted to tell the story of her German-Jewish family who came to America in the mid-nineteenth century. After attending an ArcGIS mapping workshop led by Kim Diver, Bork-Goldfield became intrigued by the possibility of using mapping to tell her story. "My family moved from place to place in Prussia (today Poland) before coming to the United States, and even there, they never stayed in one place. I thought that in order to show how they moved, it would make sense to use maps," she explained. With funding from [ITS' Digital Scholarship Innovation Fund](#), Bork-Goldfield partnered with students from Diver's [GIS Assistant Program](#) to develop her own Story Map. "From each student I learned something," Bork-Goldfield said. "I always tell them, 'I am here to learn from you.' It's a very equal way of working together, which I enjoy." While Bork-Goldfield is still planning on writing a traditional book, it will be accompanied by digital components in WordPress and Story Maps. Bork-Goldfield also plans to incorporate Story Maps into her teaching when she returns from sabbatical: "Genealogy is the new thing right now and something many people are interested in. I would love for my students to create their own family stories using Story Maps."

### **Computer Replacement Cycle for FY2020**

Now is the time of year that Desktop Support Staff (DSS) are working with Academic Affairs and administrative departments to prepare for computer replacements over the next fiscal year. Computers are replaced on approximately a four-year cycle and tracked in our asset and inventory management system. The DSS are the primary contact for scheduling computer replacements, and communication with faculty and staff receiving new machines in FY2020 is underway. Beginning in Fall 2019, ITS will provide the ability for users to check their replacement year via WesPortal along with a department view for department chairs and administrative assistants.

### **Employee Change Forms Go Digital**

This summer, Human Resources and ITS will be rolling out an online employee change form. Combining the Salary Upgrade and Voluntary Termination forms, the new online form will allow supervisors to submit and track the approval process for employee changes such as compensation, title, supervisor, FTE, department, or termination. The project benefitted from close collaboration between HR and ITS staff, including Frank Gramuglia, Anjali Tamhankar, Lauren Stumpf, Dan Pflederer, and Diane Widger.

Lastly, if you wish to hear about specific ITS projects, please let me know. We're already gathering topics for next month's *News from the CIO*.

Regards,  
Dave