Subject: News from the CIO - Issue #17, April, 2021
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From: Dave Baird
To: Dave Baird

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Wesleyan University
Information Technology Services

Dear Colleagues:

As of this morning, over 50% of CT residents have their first dose of COVID vaccine, and our students will be getting their first shots this weekend. Throughout the pandemic, ITS has partnered with Health Services to facilitate testing, contact tracing, and now vaccination. As you complete your vaccination, remember to please report your status in WesPortal.

Figshare enables sharing of faculty research data

In 2020, Wesleyan signed an agreement with Figshare to implement a publicly available repository of Wesleyan research in its many forms – datasets, code, images, text, etc. Figshare's raison d'etre is to bring scientific data to the world. Files can be in any format and are citable, shareable, and discoverable. The platform also satisfies many funding requirements to share data.

E&ES faculty, Phil Resor and Marty Gilmore, are two of the first to take advantage of the platform, stating: "The American Geophysical Union (AGU), the leading professional society in the geosciences and publisher of several top journals in the field, now requires that all data used in its publications be stored in a repository that supports the FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable) principles. Other major publishers including Nature and

AAAS/Science are joining this effort (https://copdess.org/enabling-fair-data-project/). Wesleyan's Figshare repository supports the FAIR principles and meets the new requirement for publishing in these journals. Professor Resor noted: "Professor Gilmore and I used the Figshare repository to store the original data and code we created for a paper that was recently accepted in AGU's Journal of Geophysical Research – Planets. It seems likely that storing and sharing data in Figshare will become a regular part of the publication processes in the near future."

Wesleyan Media Project is also planning to make their data available via this platform. WMP Project Manager, Laura Baum, is just beginning the process. "The Wesleyan Media Project is excited to use Figshare to make political advertising data from Kantar/CMAG accessible to the academic community. Prior to Figshare, we have struggled managing versions of files, large file sizes, and lots of metadata. We anticipate that bringing Figshare into our workflow will make our data much more accessible to researchers around the world, furthering countless projects on political messaging, accountability, and campaign finance, to name a few."

Figshare is an important addition to supporting research at Wesleyan. It enables faculty both to satisfy publishing and funding requirements while sharing their work with the world.

Creating multimedia learning modules for key concepts
When the pandemic compelled Chuck Sanislow (Professor of Psychology, Neuroscience and Behavior) to move PSYC251 online, he sought help from Alex Vazquez, Academic Technology Training Specialist in ITS. With assistance from Alex, Chuck used Adobe Premier to record the live lectures, including student questions, and later edited the content down into short learning modules. Chuck noted: "Alex showed me how to cut and combine video and audio material in creative and efficient ways, and he was always there to help me when I ran into new challenges. At the start of Fall semester, we arranged a couple of computer monitors in my office to create the feel of a virtual classroom for me and for the students. Alex set up my Zoom recording to capture different views (e.g., Presenter, Gallery, Speaker etc...) so that I could feature questions from students in my editing, and encourage student interaction. I'll be glad to be back in the classroom in the Fall, but plan to

continue developing my editing skills by creating short video segments for key concepts."

New Enhancements to Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams regularly implements product updates and new features. New Teams features introduced this year include: Live transcription in Teams meetings, breakout rooms, easy download of meeting attendee reports, low data calling mode on the mobile app for times when you have a week internet connection, along with several updates to the Teams Approval app which allow you to streamline requests, easily respond inline and seamlessly attach files for approval by others. To learn more about all Teams features and stay informed as new features are implemented, you can visit: What's New in Microsoft Teams

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Duo MFA rollout to staff completed on April 13

The rollout of Duo for multi-factor authentication to all staff finished on April 13th. Most users are using the easy Duo push functionality to receive a notification on their smartphone and then clicking "Yes" to complete the authentication. The launch of Duo has been very smooth. If you have any difficulty, you may want to look at the troubleshooting steps here: https://help.duo.com/s/article/2051?language=en_US . Whether you are using Duo pushes or passcodes, you can choose to remember your device for 30 days. When logging into Duo, check the "Remember this device for 30 days" box before signing in. If you have configured Duo to automatically send you a Duo push when you login, you'll first need to cancel the Duo push before you'll be able to check that box. All faculty are strongly encouraged, but not required, to use MFA at this time. If you want to opt in, please contact Wesleyan's chief information security officer, Joe Bazeley, at 860-685-2855 or jbazeley@wesleyan.edu.

Student Vaccine Clinic

Wesleyan's COVID task force is collaborating with Middletown's Community

Health Center to provide the vaccine to all students living on campus. The goal is to give students an opportunity to be vaccinated before the end of the semester and their return home. Working with Rick Culliton and Joyce Topshe, Maria Higuera and Paul Turenne have built a system for students to schedule appointments and communicate them to the Community Health Center. The first dose of the Pfizer vaccine was administered to our students on April 24-25 with the second dose on May 15-16.

Finally, as a reward for reading this far, here is your Random Seasonal Lyric, from "April, Come She Will" by Paul Simon:

"April, come she will
When streams are ripe and swelled with rain
May, she will stay
Resting in my arms again"

In closing, please be in touch if you want more information on any of the above or if you have suggestions for future topics, and thanks for reading!

Dave Baird
VP for IT & CIO

Photo by Olivia Drake