Wesleyan University
Information Technology Services

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the first "News from the CIO" for 2023. In this edition:

- Google storage changes (*Important, please read!*)
- Pilot testing new classroom technology in Boger 112 and Exley 109
- Workday Next Step: Choosing an Implementation Partner
- Mimecast Tips and Tricks for Email Filtering
- What's New in Windows 11 and macOS 13 (Ventura)

Let's jump right in...

Google Storage Changes

After more than a decade of unlimited storage, Google is now enforcing restrictions on Google Workspace for Education, and charging us for storage. This has caused a significant disruption across both K-12 and higher education. The free tier of storage is extremely limited, so Wesleyan has chosen to enter into a licensing plan called Education Plus. ITS has analyzed consumption patterns and developed a quota policy which focuses on students and our educational mission. Quotas are required for us to manage growth, and will affect individual Google Drives as well as Shared Drives. We know this is very disruptive for many of you; it has been exceedingly challenging for us. Please know that limiting storage is not a choice we would make were we not forced to do so.

We have already been working directly with individuals and groups who exceed the new quotas. Microsoft SharePoint and OneDrive are options, as we have

always, we are here to help!... If you would like to learn more about these tools, please contact Erik Quimby (equimby) or Rachel Schnepper (rschnepper).

Piloting Hybrid and Zoom Rooms

This semester, we're excited to be piloting spiffy new classroom technology in two rooms. In Boger 112, we have created a hybrid classroom, complete with additional large monitors, Artificial Intelligence (AI) cameras, and a Zoom Room equipped cart. The additional monitors enable in-person students and instructors to more easily see remote students, creating a more immersive hybrid experience. The AI camera can automatically focus on speakers, freeing people up from manning the camera and making it easier for the remote students to see who is speaking. Eventually, Zoom Rooms could be (optionally) scheduled in advance to automatically record classes. In Exley 109, we have installed a Zoom Room cart. We strongly encourage everyone to test out this new technology! We will be having demos as part of divisional lunches this spring, as well as holding open hours. Please stay tuned for further announcements about these events, or feel free to request a hands-on demo by submitting a ticket via ServiceNow.

Workday Next Step: Choosing an Implementation Partner

Last month, I stated that our implementation partners will guide us in the optimal use of Workday, change management, and the streamlining of our institutional business and security processes. This guidance is essential to building a functional, flexible, and efficient Workday environment.

Last week, we completed our initial evaluation of potential partners, focusing on: partner experience, implementation timeline options, data management, process change management, internal and external staffing needs, and cost.

Just yesterday, the Workday Steering Committee selected finalists to submit proposals for final evaluation. Our Wesleyan subject matter experts are preparing a list of priorities to guide this second (final) round of evaluations. Our goal is to have our implementation partner chosen by mid-March.

Now that the new Mimecast email filtering software is being used by all faculty, staff, and students, we wanted to highlight a few features that you might have missed. While you can always use the links in the "You have held messages" email to release or reject messages, you can also follow the included link to your Personal Portal to setup your account so certain senders are always (or never) delivered to you. Additionally, if there are messages that you are receiving in your inbox which you would like to never see, you can block that sender (or even their whole domain) through your Personal Portal. Instructions on how to do that can be found in the Knowledge Base article at https://wesleyanedu.service-now.com/sp?id=kb_article_view&sysparm_article=KB0011409 .

What's New in Windows 11 and macOS 13 (Ventura)

ITS is now officially supporting the latest two operating systems offered by Windows and Apple.

Windows 11 brings with it a new interface design with a goal of providing a streamlined "clean" desktop workspace. Additional features include "Snap Layouts" where you can customize the organization of your apps, along with performance and security enhancements.

While the new macOS Ventura has a similar look and feel to its predecessor (Monterey), it does offer enhanced features for improved desktop navigation and search capabilities.

Please see New Changes in Windows 11 and New Features in macOS Ventura for more details to help you get the most out of your experience with these new operating systems.
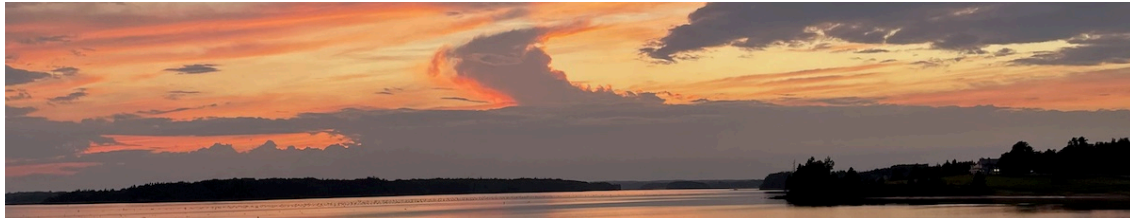

Finally, as a reward for reading this far, here is your Random Seasonal Lyric. Written by Sara Hickman, this snippet is from her 1989 album "Equal Scary People" and the tune is "Simply". Seemed appropriate for Valentine's Day next week...

I'll tell you simply I'm fallin' for you;

I just need you through the years.

Until next time, 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