Wesleyan University
Information Technology Services

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the "Homecoming / Family Weekend" edition of *News from the CIO*, featuring:

- Cyber Security Awareness Month - please complete your training
- Workday website launches - see link below and in WesPortal
- Technical Considerations when Streaming Digital Content
- Point-to-point wireless comes of age
- Desktop Backup – Code42 CrashPlan

Off we go...

October is cybersecurity awareness month...

At Wesleyan, that means it is once again time for our annual cybersecurity training. Hackers are regularly updating their attacks and scams so it is important that we all take an annual refresher to learn how to identify those attacks so we can protect ourselves and our devices. It is also required by our cyber insurance policy! An email with additional details went out to all faculty and staff on October 11th. If you missed it you can access the training through WesPortal -> Security -> Securing Wesleyan / Security Awareness Training. If you would like to discuss any information security topics in your class or department meeting, please reach out to Joe Bazeley to schedule a visit.

We are ramping up communications around the Workday project - see https://wesleyan0.sharepoint.com/sites/Workday . I will be presenting at the next faculty meeting (10/31), and the November department chairs' meeting (11/21), while Tova Fertal will engage with the Administrative Assistants on 11/7. For a complete project timeline, please see the project website. Meanwhile, the teams from HR, Academic Affairs, Finance, Payroll, Benefits, and ITS are working *intensely* on the "Architect and Configure" phase of the project. If you see your colleagues from these departments, please go ahead and thank them for their incredible effort and be patient if other services take a bit longer than usual.

Technical Considerations when Streaming Digital Content

The Academic Technology team is sometimes asked to troubleshoot situations where faculty are trying to stream digital content using the AppleTV or Microsoft Wireless Display Adapters in classrooms. Often, people wish to use their personal devices to stream digital content (e.g. Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu, Max, etc.). However, when you subscribe to any of these services, and accept their end user license agreements, these specify they are for individual use only. As such, content creators have embedded Digital Rights Management in the stream, which the wireless network detects, and then fails to display the content. Arguably, the classroom setting falls under Fair Use, but this is a gray area yet to be robustly litigated. So, how best to display your pedagogically relevant content? Read on…

If you find that you are unable to stream digital video content from your personal devices (smart phone, iPad, laptop) via streaming devices in classrooms and meetings rooms across campus, we recommend that you either use the computer in the space or connect your device directly to the projection via a cable.

Further, as commercial providers of digital video content license their content to individuals, but not to institutions, this makes that content unavailable for institutions to purchase. Thus, Wesleyan is not able to purchase institutional licenses to streaming platforms and ITS cannot install apps to stream digital video content on any of its classroom or meeting room hardware, including but not limited to computers and streaming devices. But all is not lost...

When possible, Wesleyan Libraries will attempt to purchase streaming access for specific digital video content through a vendor for a limited time. Please

is available here.

Finally, regarding special events, the law is clear on this point: showing digital video content and charging for admission (e.g. an outdoor movie screening on Foss Hill) is a clear violation of the user agreement and is illegal. We include this point only for the record; we have no indication this is happening @Wes :).

Point-to-point wireless comes of age

Wesleyan provides internet access to a fair number of buildings that are not connected to the main campus network. For many years, this has largely been the woodframe houses (student residences). However, with new acquisitions and re-purposed buildings (55 High, 37 Broad, among others) we have to find different ways to connect. We rely largely on outside providers in these situations (Comcast, Frontier, etc.). Recently, some of our oldest fiber that provides connectivity across Washington Street failed. Undaunted, the network team was able to put into place a building-to-building wireless solution to deliver connectivity to the properties. One side is mounted discreetly on Malcolm X and the other is on 240 Washington Street. Point to point wireless is finally mature enough to allow for the speeds we need. The downtime was less than 24 hours. It would have been much more costly and the outage prolonged if our only option was to run new fiber.

What's next? ITS plans to pilot this solution in 15 woodframe houses. If successful, we will use this strategy to extend the core network to more woodframes and other Wesleyan buildings on the periphery of campus, decreasing our reliance on external vendors. The future of point-to-point wireless could finally be now.

Desktop Backup – Code42 CrashPlan

While Microsoft 365 OneDrive and SharePoint cloud storage is ideal for secure storage of your data, providing ubiquitous access across all your devices, did you know that Wesleyan also supports backup software for data stored locally on faculty and staff computers?

them up securely to the cloud.

If you are using CrashPlan on your computer, it is recommended that you regularly verify that CrashPlan is actively running. You can do this by verifying the CrashPlan icon 📁 in your computer's menu bar or taskbar. Click on the icon once to get the status.

- If the icon is red, then there's an error with the sync.

- If it's greyed out, then the app isn't signed in.

- If the icon is not on the taskbar, then the application isn't running at all and may need to be relaunched.

You can bookmark the CrashPlan webpage in your browser to easily and regularly verify the last completed backup and progress of current backups.

Please view the follow articles to learn more:

- [Code42 Crashplan Data Protection](#)

- [How to login to Code42 (Crashplan) backup software](#)

and/or [Request IT Support](#) to schedule time to consult with your [Desktop Support Specialist](#).

Finally, as a reward for reading this far, here is your Random Seasonal Lyric with a nod toward the upcoming Hallowe'en, from "[Superstition](#)" by Stevie Wonder:

Very superstitious,
Writing's on the wall,
Very superstitious,
Ladders bout' to fall...

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!

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