

# CONNECTED

• • • • • Washington University Technology Digest • • • • •

We deliver an integrated, responsive and secure technology environment that advances and supports exceptional learning, research, innovation and patient care.

Washington  
University in St. Louis  
OFFICE OF THE  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

OCT/NOV 2015

## october is National Cyber Security Awareness Month



#WashUCyberSafe2015

cyber security is our shared responsibility

### Washington University IT Recognizes Cyber Security Awareness Month

This month, we recognize National Cyber Security Awareness Month. Please take time to visit the Washington University [Information Security website](#) to learn more about our [security policies](#) and the security services Washington University Information Technology (WashU IT) provides the university. The Information Security team works diligently to proactively secure our network and to protect student, faculty, staff and patient information and research data.

As the university IT community works to build the framework for our digital environment, to develop and maintain applications, to provision systems for end users, and to manage access to IT services, we start with our mission in mind.

'We deliver an integrated, responsive and secure technology environment that advances and supports exceptional learning, research, innovation and patient care.'

### Welcome to Connected, the WashU technology digest!

Connected is a news, events and announcements digest from the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

### Events

#### Skype for Business Training (formerly Lync)

Every Thursday  
11:00 am

[Click here](#) to join web conference (enter as 'guest'). Audio bridge is (314) 935-9500.

#### Unit Representatives Group Meeting

Thursday, November 19  
2:00-4:30 pm

[Click here](#) for more information.

#### IT Professional Development Book Club

Please join us for discussion about a wide range of books relevant to the IT professional. Contact Marcia Mannen ([marcia@wustl.edu](mailto:marcia@wustl.edu)) for more information. All are welcome! [Learn more](#).

Next meeting:

Thursday, November 26  
1:00-2:00 pm

Eads Hall 004

### STS Wraps First Annual Hackathon

Michael Greer, '19, and Henry Waill, '19, of team Afraid of the Cloud take first place in STS Hackathon.



The inaugural 2015 Student Technology Services (STS) Hackathon competition started Friday, Oct. 3, and ended 48 hours later, with 25 WashU students collaborating to design innovative apps. Their goal— to design an application for the [STS Virtual Reality Viewer](#) (VRV) that would benefit WashU students. Six teams completed and submitted projects. A group of judges—from WashU faculty, staff and Student Technology Advisory Committee members—evaluated the projects over a two-week period.

Taking first place in the hackathon were Michael Greer, class of 2019, and Henry Waill, class of 2019, of the team Afraid of the Cloud. Greer and Waill, both School of Engineering students, designed an augmented reality application that, via the STS VRV, recognizes images and text to call up 3D models of objects. The application has a variety of potential uses including virtual campus touring, 3D mapping, and classroom applications. For their efforts, Waill and Greer each received an Oculus Rift Development Kit.

Taking second place in the hackathon were members of team ImmersifyU: Bryan Cai, class of 2016, and Stephanie Mertz, class of 2017, from the School of Engineering, and Alex Price, class of 2018, from the Olin Business School. Their virtual reality application offers an immersive interactive experience into WashU's student organizations and clubs, giving students a fun and interesting way to explore student group activities.

---

## WashU IT Deploys Security Platform Developed by WashU Alumnus



You may have seen the 'orange umbrella of protection' digital signs around campus or maybe you encountered the red 'blocked page' screen when trying to access a webpage that has been identified as malicious. This month, WashU IT deployed OpenDNS, a cloud-based security platform that blocks malware, spyware, adware, botnets and phishing attacks before they can cause damage.

Using up-to-the-minute analysis of 2% of the world's Internet activity, the OpenDNS service blocks access to domains or IP addresses that pose a threat. When a user on the Washington University network tried to access a webpage that OpenDNS has identified as a known or emergent threat, OpenDNS will redirect the user to an alert page on the Washington University Information Security website.

David Ulevitch, OpenDNS Founder & CEO, is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis. For more on this service, visit the [FAQ](#) on the Information Security Office website.

---

## WashU IT Website Scanning Launched

Washington University has over 3,000 websites and each could be vulnerable to remote access from criminals and hackers. To mitigate our risk of these attacks, the WashU Information Security Office (ISO) will begin conducting scans of web servers and websites. This proactive measure will expose web server and website vulnerabilities and block access via WashU networks.

The website scans will gather information about each web server, look for obvious vulnerabilities and configuration issues, and generate a report for that site. The ISO will provide reports for admins who want to see their server's exposure risk. This basic scan will run regularly, hitting each server on campus every few months.

The new website scanning service is another way the Information Security Office monitors cyber

## Tech Tips

You can use the new OpenDNS service at home. [Learn how.](#)

## In Case You Missed It

[Washington University Awarded \\$475K Grant for Research Network Project?](#)

## Open Positions

See open Washington University IT positions [here.](#)

## Let's Stay Connected

We'll send this bimonthly digest to keep you in the loop. Got IT news? Tweet @WUSTL\_CIO or email us at [cio@wustl.edu](mailto:cio@wustl.edu).

threats to the WashU digital environment. Contact Information Security Analyst [Andrew Duba](#) for more information.

---

## Coming Soon: Two-Factor Authentication

WashU IT will soon deploy a two-factor authentication service to validate off-campus access to HRMS, AIS, and the research gateway. This software will require a second layer of security, for example a mobile phone, to log in to these applications further protecting against phishing and other unauthorized access.

Look for more on the two-factor authentication service in the next issue of Connected.

---

## WashU Hosts Big Data Workshop

In cooperation with the [Energy Sciences Network \(ESnet\)](#) and [Internet2](#), WashU hosted an Operating Innovative Networks (OIN) Workshop on October 20 and 21. This workshop brought researchers and network engineers from various institutions together to explore research/big-data (RBD) best practices. The conference promotes the university's commitment to data-intensive science and strengthens our relationship with the researching community. Furthermore, it provided an opportunity for WashU to learn from others' experiences as we kick-off our [Washington University Research Network \(WURN\)](#) adventure.

General information about the workshop can be found [here](#).

---

## Remote Connectivity Update

In March, the university announced that it was working with AT&T and Charter Communications to establish a peering relationship that would improve connectivity between the university and the remote users.

Internet peering is a process by which two Internet service providers (ISPs) provide Internet access to each other's customers / end-users. The Internet traffic exchange made possible by a peering relationship optimizes connectivity.

As a result of a lengthy review of AT&T's network and its current peering arrangements, the university will not be able to peer directly with AT&T. However, AT&T recently announced that it has upgraded capacity with multinational Tier 1 Internet service provider Cogent Communications. The joint peering agreement will result in over 50% increase in existing capacity with hopes of improving performance for Washington University and remote access users. Testing to verify the improvement for University employees using AT&T U-verse to access university resources is ongoing.

The Charter Communications peering connection is active.

---

## OCIO and IT Governance Committees Reviewing FY2017 IT Investment Proposals

The deadline to submit FY2017 IT Capital Investment and Shared Services Request proposals was Sept. 15. The OCIO received 17 proposals.

The [IT Capital Investment and Shared Services Request process](#) allows the IT Governance committees to review, compare and prioritize information technology requests collectively. The process can be used when a unit is seeking funding, or when a unit has an idea or service it believes has broader use. Sharing plans and information across units brings synergies and dependencies to light, resulting in more consistency across departments, improved quality, reduction in duplicate solutions and more effective use of available funding. This is the second year the university has engaged in this process to prioritize IT projects.

The 17 proposals will now be reviewed and prioritized by the IT governance committees and sent to the IT Executive Committee for final approval. Final approval is expected by the end of March 2016.

You can review a summary of approved FY2016 IT Capital Investment projects [here](#) and the project scorecard [here](#).

## Shared IT Services Program Updates

Washington University in St. Louis

### WashU IT Shared IT Services Program

ABOUT PROJECTS TEAMS NEWS & EVENTS FAQ

We're achieving milestones on the road to deploying shared IT services at WUSTL!

WUSTL Shared IT Services Program

Building a unified IT environment. Advancing the future of WUSTL IT.

#### Transforming IT to Advance the WashU Mission

The Shared Information Technology (IT) Services Program is a project to re-balance the information technology (IT) delivery model at Washington University in St. Louis by creating an infrastructure and service platform that facilitates the seamless sharing of information and positions the university for strategic advancement.

Trends in technology, research, healthcare and higher education have increased the demand for advanced technology capabilities. It is essential that we create a technology environment that can support these trends and meet the expectations of our end users. We will engage university stakeholders and partners in a plan to change our approach to IT and deliver high quality common services across the university, providing a solid foundation for our clinical, academic, and research missions.

Visit our new Shared IT Services Program website.  
<http://itservicesprogram.wustl.edu/>

## Project Update - User Services

[User Services Integration](#) is a project to create and implement a comprehensive and common university-wide end user computing service.

The User Services Integration Project will:

- Provide reliable, seamless access to University resources from anywhere and at any time.
- Reduce support complexity by consolidating systems and unifying processes.
- Deliver a consistent, high-quality on-site/remote computing experience and support.
- Improve collaboration by removing artificial boundaries within the University.
- Create meaningful, transparent service levels to improve trust.
- Improve IT career paths.

Read more about the User Services Project [here](#). View the project charter [here](#).

## Unit Representatives Group

The Shared IT Services Unit Representatives Group met October 15 to learn about the User Services Integration Project, and to further discuss end user service features that are in scope for the project.

Last month, the Unit Representatives Group learned about the Integrated Infrastructure project, which is an initiative to simplify IT infrastructure provisioning, use and support for the university. The Unit Representatives Group also discussed end user service feature definitions in scope for the program and provided feedback about each. You can view a recording of the September meeting [here](#).

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer  
CIO@wustl.edu  
<http://cio.wustl.edu>

Connected - Washington University Technology Digest  
©2015

---