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SAS Software Licensing Update

By Dave Bradstreet, ITS HelpDesk Manager, Dave.Bradstreet@rit.edu

ITS maintains an annual academic subscription site license for SAS for Windows. SAS 9.1.3, the latest version (not updated from last year), brings you a complete suite of products for data access, management, analysis and presentation. The license provides the opportunity for RIT faculty, staff and registered students to subscribe to a suite of SAS products. A complete list of SAS 9.1.3 that is available can be found at http://www.rit.edu/its/services/software_licensing/sas.html

A limited number of SAS subscriptions are available at the ITS HelpDesk at a cost of $143 for one year. The term of the current license is April 15, 2007 - April 14, 2008. On payment of the subscription fee, the license update is sent to you via email for SAS 9.1.3 for Windows. If you have not already installed SAS 9.1.3, you will also need to pick up the CD media set and installation guide at the ITS HelpDesk. If you wish to reactivate your SAS 8.2 or 9.1.2 installation, the update files will be provided by email once you have paid the annual subscription fee of $143 for one year.

License forms are available at the ITS HelpDesk, online at http://www.rit.edu/its/help/forms or you can request a form be sent via fax. Be prepared to supply your department budget number or to provide a check payable to RIT for $143. ITS does not accept cash payments for this service. If you have questions, call the ITS HelpDesk at 475-4357 or 475-2810 TTY or submit a question online at http://www.rit.edu/its/help.

SAS requires RIT to track whether usage is related to teaching/research or for administrative purposes. SAS has chosen to separate licenses by these types of use, to recognize that these two distinct groups have very different software needs. SAS provides free trainer's kits and higher education consulting to assist with course design.

SAS defines teaching and research as use for purposes of classroom instruction, academic research, and course work primarily related to post-secondary degree requirements. It can be used by students, faculty, and staff supporting such use.

Administrative purposes is defined by SAS as use for purposes directly related to university operations at a post-secondary, degree-granting institution. This includes

institutional research and any other use related to reporting about the university to the university. The software is used by administrative employees (including faculty performing administrative duties) for such administrative purposes.

All future information regarding SAS will be distributed via RIT's Message Center at http://my.rit.edu.

Photos on Class Lists Bring Kudos From Faculty and Advisors

By Irene Hawryschuk, Assistant Registrar, imhrpt@rit.edu

For those faculty who check their class lists using the official faculty/staff infocenter website (infocenter.rit.edu/facultystaff), a helpful surprise awaited them recently. Not only were they able to view up-to-date class lists, they were also able to "see" their students on-line once student photos from the RIT student ID system were added to the class list.

A helpful tool in getting to know their students, having student photos as part of the class lists is an enhancement that faculty have been requesting for some time. Instructors can now view each student's information and photograph in a list or block format. One on-line learning instructor was delighted to finally "see" the students that she works with typically only by e-mail and phone. Another faculty member said she would put away the camera she used to take pictures of her students. Based on the fact that numerous positive comments were received, this enhancement was definitely one that faculty appreciated.

Having student photos available to advisors was also something that the Advisors Council, a group of more than 100 advisors across campus, have access to. Having all the information they need, including student photos, help them better prepare for each advising session.

Kudos go to ITS staff for designing and implementing this latest project. Joe Loffredo, RIT Registrar, is looking forward to working with ITS to continue using technology to enhance and improve administrative, teaching and learning processes.

ITS Intimidators Win 2007 Stickball Tournament

By Omar Phillips, ITS HelpDesk, Omar.Phillips@rit.edu

Congratulations to the *ITS Intimidators*, winners of the 2007 President's Stickball Tournament at last month's annual Staff Picnic. The team won 5-3 in the championship game, highlighted by a game-winning three-run home run in the bottom of the last inning by team MVP, Joel Yates.

Members of this year's team are:

Denise Lake (Manager)
Mark Kimble
Matt Campbell

Sid Pendelberry
Joel Yates
Dave Korb
Jim Purvis
Dan Rosica
Dave Pecora
Cheryl Williams
Brandon Ramirez
Dave Grossman
Mark Chast
Michael Yonko

ITS Student Employee, Ed Wolf, Elected RIT SG President for 07-08

By Michelle Cometa, ITS Communications and PR Manager, michelle.cometa@rit.edu

ITS student employees number almost 300 each year and each one of them plays a significant role in supporting computing customers across RIT. This last year, Desktop Support student employee, Ed Wolf, was elected Student Government (SG) President. A third year computer engineering student, Ed is planning up to keep the best of this year's SG initiatives – "Identify and Unity" – and add on a few more – "Empower and Achieve."

"When people are empowered and have a goal they'll fight for it, they'll achieve anything they want to," Ed said. Even running for Student Government was a goal he sought after being one of the many students who spent their early years in RIT residence halls in a room that was a converted lounge. Not only was it a crowded area, it decreased what Ed considered public areas for students to socialize. "I could keep complaining," he said, "or I could do something about these things."

Although there was a need for rooms for the students, the public areas are there for students to mingle and socialize within their residence halls. A small thing, but a big thing in the development of a residence hall neighborhood, he added.

Asked how he'll build community in residence halls, Ed said he's already been in contact with Howard Ward and members of his Housing Operations team to look for ways to "make areas more homey, to get people out of their rooms." Ed also plans to participate in the discussions to develop some little used areas on campus, such as the SAU pool area, to become club facilities, meeting rooms, and social areas just for students.

One key area that will be a focal point for Ed and his SG Cabinet is the Student Alumni Union. "The SAU is failing us. There are tables for solicitors, and if you go into the Fireside Lounge, it's empty. The Clark pool is still empty," he said. "The SAU should be the pride of the Institute, a place where we all connect. Instead, it's dark and uninviting."

Even with the developing plans for a Global Union [on the west side of campus], the SAU is still in Ed's sights as a "center of campus" with the potential to be as welcoming as the newly christened facility at NTID. The Student Development Center "serves its students, why don't we?" he asked.

Ed's strong sentiments about serving students extends to systems he has come to know through his work in ITS as a desktop support team member. He remains a student first, ITS employee second, especially on days he has to register for classes. "Why is there a free-for-all at 6 am? Students expect that the registration system will be improved – it's all about integration," Ed added.

In the dance of students vs. administration, the means to build bridges starts with "both sides establishing trust" and, with the approaching inauguration of a new president for RIT, "the opportunities to connect are apparent," he said. "Buckle your seat belts – it's going to be a great ride!"

With the opportunities to influence RIT as other SG presidents have before him, Ed Wolf and team are on their way to a very exciting and interesting year. We at ITS wish him the best (and we'll see about his increased email quota, admin rights and SQL support requests).

My first encounter with Ed Wolf was with a computer problem that had my laptop well beyond slow and more often than not, hung up. When Ed arrived with the ITS trouble ticket, all it said was "B.S.O.D." I naively asked what it meant and he shared a technology bon mot – BSOD means the blue screen of death. In other words, I was in big trouble. But, somehow, with minimal files lost, the screen and hard drive restored, I was back in business. I came to appreciate that Ed found humor in BSOD, influenced me to see the humor in what could have been great drama, AND had the mojo to resurrect my laptop. I suspect that humor mixed with great fortitude will serve him well as Student Government President – as he said earlier in this interview, "Buckle your seat belts – it's going to be a great ride!" – MC

RIT Welcomes Paul Lepkowski, Information Security Engineering Lead to ITS

By Ben Woelk, Information Security Office, ben.woelk@rit.edu

A native of Corning, Paul joins us from Current Communications (Rochester, New York) where he worked as Data Network Engineer responsible for security. Paul's work experience includes 11 years at Corning Incorporated, in a lead role for network management services within data communications. Paul also worked as a Senior Security Engineer in the Information Security Office at Cornell University. Paul brings significant experience in security technologies and their integration into networked environments.

Paul is responsible for working with ITS in designing, implementing and maintaining enterprise technical security controls and serves as a subject matter expert in network and systems security. Paul analyzes the information security landscape and recommends risk mitigation activities. He also manages the security elements of enterprise services provided by the ITS organization.

Paul is active in security organizations such as the ISSA (Information Systems Security Association) and the FBI partnership group, Infragard. Paul enjoys baseball, softball, and teaching martial arts. He also enjoys spending time with his wife and kids (ages 4 and 7).

Paul is excited about joining RIT and returning to a security engineering role within an academic environment because of its dynamic and challenging nature.