

Graduate Student Computing Update

Fall 2006

Greetings!

Major initiatives are underway to bring you new and improved Information Technology resources this fall. You'll be signing on to a new high speed network with a new email system, enterprise storage system, and reduced SPAM. To keep your new computing environment stable and at maximum capacity, you'll be logging into the new Rice network with "Clean Access." This application scans your computer to make sure you have the most recent operating system patches and anti-virus software. Highlights from some of our new initiatives are listed below:

NEW!

Email System with 2 GB storage

More: <http://www.rice.edu/it/resources/email/new-email.html>

- All your existing messages were automatically moved to your new email account in early August.
- Your email address has not and will not change.
- All messages in your inbox are still in your inbox. However, if you have old messages in other folders, you will need to subscribe to those email folders to see the messages.

NEW!

2GB Student Storage Space (U: drive)

More: <http://www.rice.edu/it/resources/network/storage/new-storage.html>

- All your files automatically moved to your account in the new storage space in early August.
- Increased storage quotas of 2GB for graduate students.

NEW!

Clean Access for new network

More: <http://www.rice.edu/it/resources/security/clean-access.html>

- The first time you access the new Rice network this fall a Clean Access prompt will appear.
- Register your computer using your NetID and password.
- Clean Access will run a quick virus and patching scan on your computer.
- If your computer is –or can be– compromised, you will be notified through a web page prompt. You must satisfy the Clean Access requirements by completing the steps listed in the prompt. You will have only limited access to the Internet until you update your computer. Clean Access will run once a semester.

Preparing for the New Network

Access to the new network is spreading across campus one building at a time. Where you work will determine when you begin using the new network. View the schedule online (<http://www.rice.edu/ricenet/buildings/>). Individual computers must be prepared to use the new network. Each departmental computer will be migrated to the new network by IT staff. You can update your personal computer as noted below. If you need assistance, contact the Help Desk (see inside).

Update Your Computer for the New Network

In order to fully access Rice resources on the new network, your computer must run on Windows 2000 or XP or Macintosh 10.3 or 10.4 (or subsequent releases of these operating systems) and you must have Anti-Virus software such as PC-Cillin installed on Windows computers. Get details on downloading a free copy of PC-Cillin for your personal computer at: <http://www.rice.edu/it/PC-Cillin.html>

Need computing help? Contact the Help Desk!

The Help Desk is the central point of contact for computing help or service needs. Help Desk staff answer technical questions and route service requests to other IT professionals. We highly encourage you to submit requests at any time via our web site, but we are always happy to see you at the Help Desk or take your phone calls and email messages during our working hours.

Walk-in: Mudd 103
Phone: 713.348.HELP (4357)
Web: <http://helpdesk.rice.edu/>
Email: helpdesk@rice.edu

Semester Hours

(except holidays)

Monday - Thursday

8 am - 8 p.m.

Friday

8 am - 5 p.m.

Sunday

2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

More Resources

IT Web Site

Find out more information about our services and keep up with changes by visiting our web site.

<http://www.rice.edu/it/>

Buying Computers, Software, and Gadgets

The Technology Marketplace site offers student discounts on cell phones, cameras, printers, iPods, computers, and software.

<http://www.rice.edu/market/>

Keep it Legal: Campus Computing Policy

Copyrighted files may not be illegally shared through the Rice network. Read Rice's Appropriate Use of Computer Resources Policy and OWL-Space's Copyright Policy to find out what's legal and what isn't.

http://www.rice.edu/it/about_it/vp/policy.html and

<http://owlspace.rice.edu/copyright.html>

Telecommunications

Telephone service including voicemail is provided to departments. To report problems, contact the Telecommunications Office at x5555.

<http://www.rice.edu/telephones/>

Training for Rice Software Applications

Free short courses can help students and instructors acquire new software skills in two to three hours. Learn desktop publishing tools and techniques, create web pages, make a Flash movie and much more.

<http://www.rice.edu/it/help/train/>

Web Services

Web Services advises Rice research groups, centers, and departments on web sites and web applications. Free and cost-recovery services range from evaluations of current web sites for usability to graphics, information presentations, and data driven web applications.

<http://webservices.rice.edu/>

Working off-campus? Traveling?

Continue to access your email, Oracle calendar, and voice mail when you are away from campus.

<http://webmail.rice.edu> - email

<http://webcal.rice.edu> - Oracle calendar

713-348-2000 - voice mail

Before you begin traveling, read additional tips from the Help Desk and print the document for reference during your trip:

<http://www.rice.edu/it/help/helpdesk/Traveling.doc>

Computing Resources

Rice Computing Accounts

You may have access to other computing resources, not listed below, through your department. Be sure to check with your advisor. Accounts and resources available to you from IT are explained below. Contact the Help Desk with any questions about these services.

IT Computing Accounts

IT provides you the opportunity to use several types of computing accounts; each type is explained below. Access to most of these accounts is via your NetID and NetID password (these serve as your single sign-on identifier and password for several campus computing systems). To learn your preset NetID and to create your NetID password (or change your password in the future), visit the <https://apply.rice.edu/> web page. You will have the same NetID and password on most of the IT accounts you obtain (eventually, NetID will be used for all of your IT accounts).

Login

Your NetID is used to log onto most office and lab computers on campus.

Email

Your NetID is also used to access your email, which can be read using a variety of programs. Initially, your NetID is your primary email address. For example, if your NetID is `bas1`, you have the email address of `bas1@rice.edu`. However, you are also assigned an email alias address that is based on your name (for example: `Betty.A.Smith@rice.edu`). Use <https://apply.rice.edu> to request additional aliases, such as `betty@rice.edu` or `eegoddess@rice.edu`. Remember: when you are logging in to retrieve your email, you must always identify yourself with your NetID, not with one of your aliases.

Oracle Calendar

Rice has a site license for Oracle, a calendar program. You can synchronize data from Oracle Calendar with many PDAs or mobile devices. NOTE: Oracle Calendar accounts are not automatically created; contact the Help Desk to activate this account. NetID is not currently used for Oracle Calendar access.

Dial-up

Although many people already have an Internet connection at home (cable modem or DSL line), you can connect to the campus network if you only have a computer with a modem. The Help Desk can help you set up a dialup connection.

VPN

Virtual Private Network provides secure transportation of data between Rice University and a computer connected to the Internet outside of Rice. If you need to have access to secure Rice-only sites from home or while traveling, visit the Help Desk to activate a VPN account. Your NetID and password will be used to access VPN.

Say What?

IT staff members try to explain things clearly, but sometimes technical terms and acronyms slip into our explanations. Browse for a specific word or term in our IT Glossary:

<http://www.rice.edu/it/help/documents/ITglossary.html>

For Instructors and Teaching Assistants

Technology in Classrooms and Labs

Multimedia classrooms and labs enable instructors to integrate technology into the educational environment. Over the summer, instructional technology was added to 12 new rooms and Herzstein 210 received a major technology makeover. For security reasons, podium configurations have been changed. These changes may impact how you use the classroom systems, especially if you have been logging on with the shared 'podium' account. We recommend you attend a training session to learn more. See <http://www.rice.edu/it/edtech/> or email edtech@rice.edu for further details.

Podium Training Classes

Instructor Training for Multimedia Podiums

Brief training sessions on using the multimedia classroom podiums will be held in August. To see a schedule or to learn more details, see: http://www.rice.edu/it/about_it/news/podiumtraining.html

OWL-Space: New Course Management Tool

OWL-Space is Rice's new collaboration and course management tool. Use OWL-Space for online course syllabi, discussions, and grade books, class mailing lists and more. Collaboration sites are available upon request and offer tools such as a shared resource repository, central calendar and communication tools for your research and collaboration needs. See <http://owlspace.rice.edu/> or contact Angela Rabuck (edtech@rice.edu or x8220) for more details.

OWL-Space Training Classes

Instructor, Teaching Assistant, and Student Training for OWL-Space

Brief training sessions on working with OWL-Space will be held in August and September. To see a schedule or to learn more details, see: http://www.rice.edu/it/about_it/news/owlspacetraining.html

Additional Resources

Brown Bag Workshops - <http://www.rice.edu/it/brownbag.html>

Is your teaching up to Internet speed? Would you like to incorporate podcasts, blogs, electronic image libraries, and course management software but don't know where to begin? Spend a lunch hour once a month to discuss these resources with your colleagues. Co-sponsored by the Language Resource Center and IT's Educational Technologies.

Media Services and Events - <http://www.rice.edu/it/mse/>

IT offers live event support to the Rice community. Many of these services require extensive setup and advance scheduling: lecture and event recording, field recording, streaming Internet, online media delivery, and videoconferencing. (Event support fees based on cost-recovery.) Questions? Need to set up an event? Email avevents@rice.edu.