

IT Governance: Shared IT Infrastructure Advisory Committee (SIAC)



Minutes

3:00 to 4:00

03/27/2012

CSE 507

Members Attending: C. Benjamin, Cromer, Fitzpatrick (Chair), Frey, Kirmse, Lander, Matusz, Olson

Others Attending: Burdette, Curry, Easley, Grover, Madey, Miller, Pokorney, Mark Robinson

1. Chairman's Notes – from January 24, 2012

All

- No changes

2. E-Fax Service – Open for Business

John Madey

- Madey presented a PowerPoint, outlining features/functions, and demonstrating the 'how-to' of the new eFax service. User guide is available on the CNS/Telecom web site [<http://telecom.cns.ufl.edu/sites/default/files/eFAX%20User%20Guide.pdf>].
- User must be a UF Exchange user.
- Outbound (sending) faxes require no special set-up. Just follow the instructions. There is no charge for these, however international outbound faxes are not allowed.
- Inbound (receiving) faxes require a special set-up, which includes a monthly charge for an inbound telephone number.
- This will be announced in the upcoming UF IT Newsletter, and is also currently publicized in the Service Catalog.

3. Red-Hat Linux – Site License Usage

Chris Easley

- UF IT's site license with Red Hat provides unlimited Red Hat Enterprise Linux licenses at zero-cost-to-departments (including UF 'affiliate' organizations).
- This comes with full support.
- All departments using any Linux/UNIX are encouraged to take advantage of this.
- C. Benjamin mentions his unit (UF Housing) is moving a lot of servers from FreeBSD onto RHEL, due to availability of support.
- This will be announced in the upcoming UF IT Newsletter, and is also currently publicized in the Service Catalog.

4. Network Standards Committee

Dan Miller

- Goal: Common experience regardless of location, including main campus, health center, housing... (Foundation will be handled via VPN pass through back to main campus).
- Differences in requirements between the various 'campus Wireless providers,' present challenges to achieving this goal.
- **Common Wireless SSIDs**
 - New features in Cisco wireless controllers solve some boundary problems.
 - Must appear seamless to users, but still provide management capability for the various Wireless providers.

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- The new SSIDs will be:
 - **UF** – main network, general access [replaces UFW].
 - **UFINFO** – available for patching and instructions. Generally users that fail NAC Posture Assessment (see below) will be dropped into **UFINFO**, with limited access, so that they can patch their machines into compliance.
 - **UFVISITOR** – for casual visitors (ball-game, museum event). Will not allow VPN connections into UF campus (to prevent abuse by UF employees). Will be deployed “as needed” in appropriate areas, not universally.
 - UFW will be phased out.
- **Network Access Control (NAC)**
 - Posture assessment to determine whether the client machine meets standards for connection to the network.
 - PO for vendor solution going out this week (Impulse Point SafeConnect [<http://www.impulse.com/>])
 - Deployment scheduled for this summer.
 - 802.1x included to solve credential caching problem [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IEEE_802.1X]
 - This is all for wireless only. We will not be implementing wired authentication or posture-assessment at this time, due to costs.
- **Common Security Block Model (CSBM)**
 - This relates to a user’s access being blocked for security reasons. UF IT Support staff (Help Desk, etc.) currently don’t know which users are blocked and why. This will provide standardized visibility and instrumentation for security blocks.
 - Goal is that IT workers can see who’s blocked and why. And that a block applies the same in all locations.
 - Softer time-line. No firm target date yet.
- **Questions/Concerns/Follow-Up**
 - Kirmse asks about managed machines being denied access via NAC – how do they then get access to their WSUS-system to get patched. Grover says to tell him about those servers so that he can whitelist them.
 - Curry would like to engage this workgroup about making sure the wireless server is aware of Shibboleth attributes, so it can correctly discriminate between different categories of users. Miller & Fitzpatrick refer Curry to Rob Adams.
 - Grover: Currently running an alpha test of 802.1x with the new SSIDs. Soon to open up a beta, with Production in early May (Summer A), when we will turn on NAC ‘warning mode.’ Summer B we will turn on ‘blocking mode,’ which will drop the user into a restricted VPN. Plan to be fully on the new system by Fall.
 - Many IFAS extension offices (particularly the large RECs) will also be included in these changes, but not all.

- This doesn't include Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. That is being addressed via the Distributed Antenna System project. However CNS/Net-Services does plan to roll out [some of] this to the O-dome, as that is a more manageable-sized site.

5. Work In Progress – Quick Updates

● File Express (drop box)

Lander

- Service is ready, from a technical standpoint. Waiting now on security review.
 - Security Review meeting scheduled in about a week with InfoSec group (Rob Adams) to determine the results of their security audit.
 - The issue: can Restricted Data be stored on this the service?
 - Lander thinks it should, and will be allowed in the end.
 - Latest version of the system asks user – “Will you be uploading Restricted Data?” If yes, then the system forces the download to be restricted to an explicit list of GLIDs.

● End-User Storage Options

Fitzpatrick

- Deumens is providing storage-as-a-service for High-Performance Computing.
- Olson has also been providing something similar for Coll. of Business Admin.
- The wish is for UFIT to provide this service centrally. In addition to user requests, VP Eldayrie has asked CNS to evaluate End-User-Storage options. CNS needs to reach out to those that are doing it now, and find out what features/functions are needed. How big a 'menu' do you want?
- Internet2/Box.Net is a bit pricy, especially compared to what Deumens charges HPC customers. What capabilities are driving these cost differences?
- What features/functions are included in the basic service vs. a premium service? How many 'tiers' or varieties of service should be on the menu?

● InCommon Silver Certification

Curry

The application process is open. We've progressed to where UFAD is the last significant obstacle. Now cajoling people into cooperating. Hoping to activate Jeff Capehart's audit process soon, which is a requirement for UF's application to be approved. 'Proofing' process is completely functional and ready for use. Soon the Training program will be available for selected staff (Directory Coordinators).

6. Next Meeting – the 4th Tuesday from 3:00pm to 4:00pm – April 24 at CSE 507

Additional Information:

- UF IT Governance Home: <http://www.it.ufl.edu/governance/>
- Shared Infrastructure Advisory Committee (SIAC) website: <https://connect.ufl.edu/it/SIAC/>