Networking and Services Subcommittee

Meeting Held: 09/30/14

Members in Attendance: Peter DiGregorio, Timothy Farides, Stephen Clark, Rebecca Turner, Paul Basileo, Laura Levine, Grzegorz Fabiszewski for Helen Wittmann, Edward Hassildine, William Tucker

Members Absent: John Gannon, Drew Rabinowitz, Anna Flack, Charles Bartolotta, Joseph Blanco, and Michelle Fowler

All members were emailed following meeting

Old Business:
Review of Inter-Campus connections and progress made since last meeting:
All connections are up and we have two paths to each campus for network traffic. In addition, we have another connection point that will allow us to move from 1000Mbps to 10Gbps to/from the main campuses and provide a path for a backnet for replication.

Pilot for Video Streaming:
As discussed at our last meeting the Library committee has purchased a video streaming catalog technology subscription. The links were posted on the Library database webpages but has not been promoted at our request. We have asked that the instructors using this technology report back on its use so we can determine the overall impact to the college network. The following email was sent to the chair of the CCC over the summer:
“A proposal was brought forth to the Networking and Service committee to purchase a database subscription for streaming video. A pilot was conducted by streaming from a lab (results can be seen below) and gave us an idea of the impact that would be seen. However, it is hard to judge the actual impact based on this small pilot. We have recommended that the pilot be extended to include a number of instructors from each campus that would be willing to document how the product was used and when it was used over the fall semester. We also recommended that while the Library wants to publish this and make it available for everyone’s use that it be added to their catalogs but not promoted. There is a possibility that a service such as this could bring our network to a crawl and impact college business. We are investigating means of separating the traffic but need the pilot to better understand the traffic flow.”

Student Authentication:
We are still waiting on the Trust relationship between two domains to be built. The Domain Administrator for the domain that the student users reside was given access to the machine domain for this action. Based on our discussion several concerns were voiced and a timeline for implementation was created. Timing of logon profiles may be an issue and several ideas were brought forward to minimize the time spent waiting for the profile to be created. These ideas will be investigated and tested once we have a test platform created. To begin working on these issues a user for each campus will be created in the root machine domain. This will simulate users from the student user domain. Another concern was the use of educational machines by faculty members as their credentials reside in yet another domain. This issue requires investigation. The last issue of concern was guest users and this has been addressed since the inception of Student Authentication. Guest user accounts will have to be created and assigned in the open areas. It is the recommendation of this committee that the Policy subcommittee review guest policy documents and recommendations to produce a current policy
addressing both short-term and long-term guests. Timeline as follows for technology implementation (this will be phased in slowly):
Create Test users in machine root domain – 10/1/14
Create Trust between Student User Domain and Machine Domain – 11/1/14
Test implementation with test machines on all campuses – 11/2/14 to 12/26/14
Deploy solution in ACC on each campus as pilot – 12/26/14 to 01/20/15
Deploy solution in all open lab/computer environments - 3/1/15 to 5/17/15
Deploy solution to all computers college-wide – by Fall 15 semester

STF Budget New Project process:
Reminder that we have designated our November meeting to review proposals made to the STF in alignment with their meeting later that month. This should give us time to review and provide feedback before the STF votes on the projects.

New Business:
Upgrade of fiber connectivity between buildings:
Capital Project has been established to create new fiber paths and replacing fiber between buildings on all campuses. Began installation of new fiber between Riverhead and four surrounding buildings (Ammerman, Babylon, Smithtown and Huntington) in late August. The paths were established (new conduit inside and outside) and internal cable was installed, spliced and terminated. Termination at the core is still in progress. Once completed we will have 24 strands of single-mode fiber run in a different path than the current fiber connection. This will allow us to bring up faster speed and more connections for redundancy to each building and still maintain a secondary path in the event we have a cable break.

Removal of registration process for personal computers:
At the start of the Spring semester we will be eliminating the need for students, Faculty, Staff and Administrators to register their personal devices to connect to SCCC-Public wireless network. At current we have enough logging components to no longer require this additional piece. Notification to the user population will begin in November so that all parties will be aware. We will also increase the number of concurrent logins to three to accommodate multiple devices by our current user population.

Print management:
Papercut is being proposed as a possible solution for the Print management issue for the college. It is currently being tested on the eastern campus and along with the Student Authentication project will be tested using users based on login.